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Silent salute to the fallen

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

President Barack Obama salutes the remains of Sgt. Dale R. Griffin during a dignified transfer event at Dover Air Force Base, Del., on Thursday. Obama, the first president to attend a dignified transfer since the wars began, is currently considering a troop increase in Afghanistan. See story on Page 3.

Air Force may end mandatory unit PT

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
AND MARK ABRAMSON
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Even as the Air Force prepares to toughen physical fitness standards for airmen, it's proposing to do away with mandatory physical training.

That means commanders no longer would have to provide airmen at least 270 minutes per week to exercise during duty hours. But airmen would still have to be prepared to pass more stringent PT tests twice a year.

If approved, the Air Force would be the first of the military services to eliminate mandatory PT.

An internal audit last year found the Air Force's fitness program did not promote year-round fitness.

Thirty-five percent of airmen tested at 13 bases worldwide gained weight and recorded significant increases in abdominal circumference measurements within 60 days of taking their PT test, auditors reported.

To combat those problems, the new standards would include twice yearly — instead of annual — testing, a revised point system, fewer chances to fail before being discharged, and assessments conducted by civilian health experts, rather than fellow airmen.

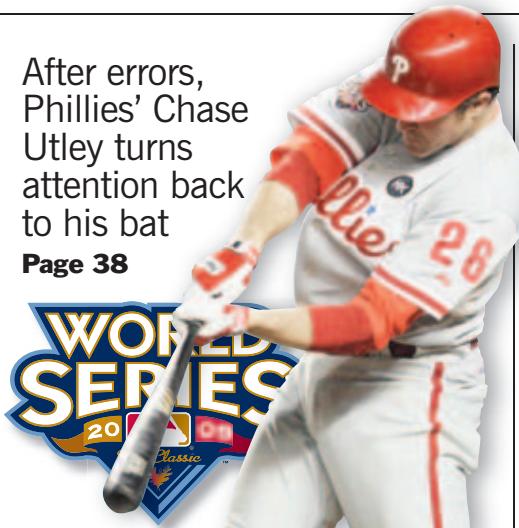
SEE PT ON PAGE 5

After errors, Phillies' Chase Utley turns attention back to his bat

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Bill requires military to issue report on troops cut off from children overseas Page 4



Party's over: Afghan bases may cut perks

BY T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — Turn out the lights, the party's over.

Karaoke, salsa and hip-hop gatherings and a few other popular programs have been shut down at Kandahar, and it could happen at other installations in Afghanistan as commanders carry out a directive by Gen. Stanley McChrystal to focus more on the mission.

Resources devoted to amusing troops on the larger bases would be better used supporting warriors on the more remote, bare-bones bases, officials say.

McChrystal asked units last month to assess every nonmission-related base program as part of an overall look at the military's presence and strategy in the country, Col. Wayne Shanks, International Security Assistance Force public affairs officer, said Tuesday.

The goal is to "eliminate inefficiencies" in the command so troops "can focus more on our mission," Shanks said.

SEE CUTS ON PAGE 3

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I thought I was going into the Bay. I have lost so much confidence in the experts, the millions of dollars that are being spent to reconstruct and build a new bridge ..."

— Andrea Nelson, who saw the crossbar and two rods fall ahead of her as she crossed the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

See story on Page 9

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COMING TOMORROW

Perspectives



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U.S. soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment go on patrol in the Pech Valley of Afghanistan's Kunar province on Thursday. President Barack Obama has asked senior officials for a province-by-province analysis of Afghanistan to determine which regions are being managed effectively.

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/AP

adviser James Jones supports Obama's request for a more detailed status report on each province that could identify potential U.S. allies among Afghanistan's local leaders.

Gates and Jones have pushed McChrystal to justify as specifically as possible his request for 44,000 additional troops, the figure now at the center of White House deliberations.

"There are a lot of questions about why McChrystal has identified the areas that he has identified as needing more forces," said a senior military official familiar with the review, who requested anonymity. "Some see it as an attempt by the White House to do due diligence on the commander's troop request. A less charitable view is that it is a 5,000-mile screwdriver tinkering from Washington."

The weeklong White House review has been shaped by a central tension between the broad counterinsurgency strategy endorsed by the military and a narrower counterterrorism campaign against al-Qaida that some senior administration officials favor.

Even after weeks of review, administration officials say a range of options is still under consider-

ation, including whether additional U.S. forces could be deployed in phases. Although Obama had been expected to announce his decision before leaving Nov. 11 on a 10-day trip to Asia, administration officials say he may wait to do so until he returns.

"I think it's important to hear and to get this right," White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs told reporters Wednesday.

In reviewing McChrystal's bracing assessment of the war, Obama and his senior advisers have concluded that the Taliban cannot be eliminated as a military and political force, regardless of how many additional troops are deployed.

The acknowledgment is behind Obama's request for an analysis of which of Afghanistan's 34 provinces can be left to local leaders, perhaps including elements of the Taliban unaligned with al-Qaida. Administration officials have said that under any strategy, the Taliban would not be allowed to threaten the Kabul government or provide sanctuary for al-Qaida, whose leaders operate largely from the tribal areas across the border in Pakistan.

"How much of the country can we just leave to be run by the

locals?" said one U.S. official involved in Afghan policy, who discussed the White House request on the condition of anonymity.

"How do you separate those who have taken up arms because they oppose the presence of foreigners in their area, because they're getting paid to fight us because we're there, from those who want to restore a Taliban government? How many of the people who we're fighting actually share al-Qaida's ideology?"

Obama's interest in provincial allies also reflects the administration's growing disenchantment with President Hamid Karzai and his inability to extend his government's authority beyond Kabul during his nearly eight years in office. Provincial governments and tribal structures have long exerted more power than the central government, viewed by many Afghans as remote, corrupt and ineffective. Another U.S. official involved in Afghan policy said that "most of Afghanistan that's stable is under local control."

"The question is: Can you get benign local control in more places?" the official said. "And will that be easier to achieve, and more effective, than trying to establish more central government control?"

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PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

President Barack Obama salutes as soldiers carry a transfer case at Dover Air Force Base, Del., Thursday. Obama honored 18 Americans killed in Afghanistan this week.

'A sobering reminder'

President makes midnight trip to Dover base as remains from Afghanistan return to U.S.

BY BEN FELLER
The Associated Press

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — Standing in the pre-dawn darkness, President Barack Obama saw the real cost of the war in Afghanistan: The Americans who return in flag-covered cases while much of the nation sleeps in peace.

In a surprise midnight dash to this Delaware base, where U.S. forces killed overseas come home, Obama honored the return of 18 fallen Americans Thursday. All were killed in Afghanistan this week, a brutal stretch that turned October into the most deadly month for U.S. troops since the war began.

"It was a sobering reminder of the extraordinary sacrifices that our young men and women in uniform are engaging in every single day, not only our troops but their families as well," Obama said later Thursday, hours after his return to the White House. "The burden that both our troops and their families bear in any wartime situation is going to bear on how I see these conflicts, and it is something that I think about each and every day."

The dramatic image of a president on the tarmac was a portrait not witnessed in years. Former President George W. Bush said the appropriate way to show his respect for war's cost was to meet with grieving military families in private, as he often did, but he never went to Dover to meet remains coming off the cargo plane. Obama did so knowing he may soon send more troops to war.

For all the talk of his potential troop increase Obama got a grim reminder of the number that counts: one.

His name was Dale R. Griffin, an Army sergeant from Terre Haute, Ind. He was the last fallen soldier to come before Obama. And his remains were the only ones of the 18 to be honored in full view of the media. An 18-year ban on such coverage, dating to the 1991 Gulf War and strengthened by Bush, was relaxed this year under Obama's watch, allowing families to decide whether cameras can document the return. Nearly two-thirds have said yes.

The president led a team of officials onto the gray C-17 cargo plane carrying Griffin, and then back off, where they stood for several minutes in a line of honor.

It was not quite 4 a.m. The sky was black and a yellowish light came from poles flanking the flight. The only sounds were a whirring power unit on the plane and the clicking of cameras. A blue vehicle carrying members of Griffin's family pulled up.

The president then saluted as six soldiers in camouflage and black berets carried Griffin's remains down the ramp and into a waiting white van.

Obama immediately sat down privately with all the family members in a base chapel.

The solemn process of transferring remains of 15 soldiers and three Drug Enforcement Administration agents unfolded in four separate movements. Obama took part in all of them. A chaplain offered prayers for the fallen, the crews that brought them home,

the families who lost a loved one, and a nation embroiled in war.

The military calls the process a dignified transfer, not a ceremony, because there is nothing to celebrate. The cases are not labeled coffins, although they are enveloped in flags.

By 4:45 a.m., the president touched back down on the South Lawn. He walked inside, alone.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said Thursday that Obama remained quiet on the flight back, thanking his team for making the trip possible but saying little else.

"I don't think you can go out there and not understand what you are seeing," said Gibbs, one of the few aides who accompanied Obama for the trip. "It's hard not to be overwhelmed."

A president of two inherited wars, Obama is winding down U.S. involvement in Iraq, but the troubled conflict in Afghanistan is only widening. It has become the dominant foreign policy challenge of his early presidency.

The president chose to go to Dover now given the enormous blow to U.S. forces just this week, in a month where at least 55 U.S. troops have been killed.

On Monday, a U.S. military helicopter crashed returning from the scene of a firefight with suspected Taliban drug traffickers in western Afghanistan, killing 10 Americans including three DEA agents. On Tuesday, eight soldiers were killed when their personnel vehicles were struck by roadside bombs in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. It was those 18 dead that Obama saw home.

Cuts: Limiting recreation to refocus on the mission

CUTS, FROM PAGE 1

Brig. Gen. Dan Schultz, commander of the 143rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command and the senior officer for the U.S. garrison on Kandahar, said the final decision on what will be closed will be made by the ISAF headquarters later this year.

But he's already killed a few programs — including karaoke night, which attracted up to 250 people — because he doesn't think they will be approved.

Schultz said McChrystal's "target is really things that are distracters to the mission."

The troops living in austere conditions at forward operating bases focus entirely on the mission, he said, and there's a perception that troops on rear-area bases like Kandahar "aren't doing anything."

"We need to kill that perception," he said.

Some say too many resources are being used on things unrelated to combat.

"Instead of flying bullets and food rations to troops at austere combat outposts, some planes and helicopters are instead being used to ferry ice cream and fried chicken to troops far from the front," according to an article posted on ISAF's Facebook site.

"Troops who should be on patrol to help protect Afghan civilians from insurgents instead get stuck pulling guard duty while their comrades whoop it up at hip-hop night," the article continues.

At Kandahar Air Field, word has spread quickly throughout the coalition ranks that the Burger King, Subway, Tim Horton's coffee shop and other vendors could be closing on "the boardwalk," a large, covered walkway surrounding a dusty sporting field.

The British, who have command in the south and run the garrison at Kandahar, say they don't intend to end any of their recreation programs because they use an "Afghan First" policy, hiring local nationals to provide goods and services, which pose no drain on resources.

ISAF Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Hall, McChrystal's senior adviser, addressed the recreational cuts in a recent news release.

"You know that people are going to get upset that (some MWR is) going to go away, but you know, the front line soldiers, they don't get that stuff and they don't need that stuff," Hall said in the release. He added that while visiting combat outposts, soldiers "laughed ... when asked if they'd care if hamburger restaurants and ice cream shops at the main bases were shut down."

Cutting the leisure activities and services will allow more military supplies to route through air fields like Kandahar and Bagram because it will "free up space for military aircraft," according to the release.

Army Sgt. Travis Payne, in Kandahar this week with the 154th Transportation Company, said services such as the fast food franchises are important — and expected — for troops who visit from outlying areas.

"They don't want to be kept in a prison camp," he said of Kandahar.

Pulling those amenities out would "take away what little morale there is," said Pfc. John Armstrong, who serves with Payne.

Staff Sgt. Josh Swainston, who lives and works on Forward Operating Base Ramrod, about 50 miles west of Kandahar, said he can see both sides of the issue, but laughed it was pointed out that he was carrying a take-out coffee from Green Beans.

"I ain't gonna lie," he said of the shopping opportunities at the boardwalk. "It's nice."

One soldier who declined to give his name said he thinks it would be a good idea to close the shops and restrict the recreation programs so everyone — whether on a Spartan forward operating base or at a rear area facility — has the same opportunities.

"It doesn't seem like they realize we're in a combat zone," he said of those living at Kandahar.

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MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Troops enjoy a video game room at Kandahar Air Field's MWR center in April 2005.

Military to report on overseas troops cut off from children

BY CHARLIE REED
Stars and Stripes

The military will be required to submit a report on the number of troops who have been cut off from their children by family members overseas during the last two years, according to an amendment in the newly approved Defense Authorization Bill.

Though the measure stops short of requiring the Defense Department to implement new policies to assist servicemembers affected by international child abduction, the amendment is intended to spur those moves, according to sponsor Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J.

The amendment requires the DOD to report:

- The number of children abducted from military parents
- The number of children who have been returned to left-behind military parents
- Any DOD action to facilitate returns
- Measures taken by the DOD to prevent abductions
- Psychological counseling, financial assistance, legal services and leave for travel provided for left-behind military parents
- How it communicates services and information related to international child abduction to left-behind military parents
- Training provided to those who provide legal assistance to the left-behind military parents

From the office of Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J.

"This will be the catalyst for significant reform," Smith told Stars and Stripes on Thursday.

The report, which is due to Congress within 180 days, requires the military to document current practices to assist servicemembers entangled in overseas custody battles. Smith, however, said there appears to be no consistent policy within the DOD to address the problem.

The amendment came as good news to troops such as Navy Cmdr. Paul Toland, who has been fighting for rights to his 7-year-old daughter in Japan since she was a baby. While stationed at Yokosuka Naval Base in

rights for both parents after a divorce, not every country protects those rights.

In Japan, more than 100 Japanese-American children are currently being kept away from their American parent. Japanese courts typically award custody to mothers and do not enforce visitations for non-custodial parents, nor do those courts recognize foreign custody orders.

Troops need to understand the laws of the countries where they're stationed, said Toland, now based in Maryland.

The State Department tracks international child abduction incidents and officials have said the caseload in Japan has doubled since last year — due to the rise of international marriage and divorce, as well as increased reporting.

Smith said there is a need to ensure the best legal advice is given to troops seeking military assistance in international divorce and custody cases.

Smith also introduced the International Child Abduction Prevention Act, which has yet to make its way through the legislative process. That legislation would impose economic sanctions against countries that do not cooperate in resolving international child abduction issues.

While U.S. laws provide for custody

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Music for Malaysia



ADAM VINCENT/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

U.S. 7th Fleet's Ceremonial Band performs Tuesday at a Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, shopping center. The 18-member group played a variety of American marches and old standard swing hits. The fleet's Brass Band also performed at the mall. The Navy musicians visited Malaysia embarked aboard the Yokosuka-based USS Blue Ridge, which arrived in the country Monday.

An eye for an IED

Detecting bombs is a vision, lifestyle thing

BY TONY PERRY
Los Angeles Times

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — As Marines train to deploy to war zones, there is daily discussion about how to detect and disarm the buried roadside bombs that kill Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Military researchers have found that two groups of personnel were particularly good at spotting anomalies: those with hunting backgrounds, who traipsed the woods as youth in search of a deer or turkey; and those who grew up in urban circumstances where it is often important to know which gang controls which block.

Personnel who fit neither category, often young men who grew up in the suburbs and developed a fondness for video games, did not seem to have the depth perception and peripheral vision of the others.

The findings did not surprise Army Sgt. Maj. Todd Burnett, the top enlisted man with the Pentagon-based Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, or JIEDDO, which conducted the study. He has made multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and ridden in more than 1,000 convoys. On 19 occasions, he has been in a vehicle hit by a roadside bomb.

The best troops he's seen when it comes to spotting bombs were soldiers from the South Carolina National Guard, nearly all with rural backgrounds that included hunting.

"They just seemed to pick up things much better," Burnett said.

"They know how to look at the entire environment."



DON BARTLETTI/Los Angeles Times

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Stephen Gouak, who has deployed as a demolition expert to Iraq and Afghanistan, lifts the antenna wire of a phony roadside bomb on a training course at the Marine base at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Personnel from urban backgrounds also seemed to have developed an innate "threat-assessment" ability. Both groups, said Army research psychologist Steve Burnett, "seem very adaptable to the kinds of environments" seen in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Video-game enthusiasts are narrower in their focus, as if their Humvee's windshield is a computer screen.

"The gamers are very focused on the screen rather than the whole surrounding," said Sgt. Maj. Burnett (no relation to the research psychologist).

Some 800 military personnel at Twentynine Palms and several other bases took part in a set of vision and perception tests, follow-up interviews and personality tests over 18 months. Test subjects were asked to find hidden bombs in pictures, videos, virtual reality exercises and open-air obstacle courses, including on pitch-dark nights.

Although many findings remain classified,

military officials agreed to discuss the eye-sight portion of the study.

Completed in June, the study is being circulated for peer review to researchers with security clearance.

Of the bombs spotted before they could kill or maim, an estimated 90 percent were detected by someone sensing something amiss in a dusty roadside in Helmand province or a crowded street in Fallujah.

Instructors not involved in the study were not surprised to learn that rural and urban backgrounds are common characteristics of good bomb-hunters.

"Let's be honest: that's a big percentage of the Marine Corps. You don't get Harvard graduates becoming Marine privates," said Chief Warrant Officer Seth Leonard, who hunted squirrels as a youth in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and is now operations officer for the explosive ordnance disposal school here.

U.S. sailor accidentally fires shots from ship

BY MARK ABRAMSON
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — A U.S. official says an American sailor accidentally fired three shots Wednesday from a machine gun aboard a Navy ship docked in Gdynia, Poland.

The incident happened while the sailor was doing maintenance on a M240 machine gun on the Norfolk, Va.-based USS Ramage, U.S. Navy 6th Fleet spokesman Cmdr. Scott Miller said.

"There was no known damage. There was no evidence of a building being impacted. As far as we know nothing was hit," Miller said.

The Navy is cooperating with a Polish military police investigation, and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is looking into the shooting, Miller said.

The incident came on the heels of the Ramage's participation in the Joint Warrior Exercise, which involved several Allied countries' navies. It happened on the last day of the Ramage's port visit to Gdynia, and it did not delay the ship's departure, Miller said.

"It's unfortunate at the end of an otherwise perfect port visit that you would have something like this. We certainly regret the incident," Miller said. "We take it seriously."

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PT: New standards would include twice-yearly fitness testing

PT, FROM PAGE 1

But two months before they're to be rolled out, the revised guidelines have yet to be signed by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz. Air Force officials said a review of the guidelines delayed the expected September release of the instruction.

Airmen, however, are already sounding off about the possible elimination of mandatory PT. Some welcome the relaxed standards, while others worry that losing workout time during duty hours will make it tougher to pass the more stringent PT test.

Under current fitness guidance, squadron commanders must implement and maintain a unit or squadron PT program while also ensuring that all members are permitted up to 90 minutes of duty time for physical training three times a week.

The other services have similar guidelines. The Navy doesn't mandate unit PT, but recommends that commanders give sailors at least three 60-minute workout sessions during duty hours each week, Navy spokeswoman Katie Suich said in an e-mail to Stars and Stripes.

In the Marine Corps, commanders must ensure their troops perform at least five 30-minute "combat conditioning sessions" each week, according to a Marine Corps spokesman, 2nd Lt. Brian Villiard.

The Army carves out the most time for mandatory physical training. A commander "in general" gives 1½ hours a day for first-line supervisors to conduct physical training during duty hours each week, according to an Army spokesman, Lt. Col. Lee Packnett.

Air Force officials say eliminating mandatory PT is intended to give commanders more leeway in designing and scheduling PT programs to meet their unit's needs and mission.

"Commanders are highly encouraged to continue with the fitness program, but it's not going to be mandatory," said Maj. Richelle Dowdell, an Air Force spokeswoman at the Pentagon.

Part of the reasoning behind the shift is the acknowledgement that commanders can make airmen attend PT but they can't force someone to "put that effort forward," Dowdell said. It's up to the individual what they get from a workout, and the Air Force thinks fitness should be the individual's responsibility, she said.

But Air Force officials won't go as far as to say the expected change will shift accountability for their airmen's test scores away from commanders.

Last year's audit found that commanders did not consistently allow individual physical fitness activity during duty hours, and that unit-based fitness programs did not effectively influence airmen to make fitness a year-round commitment.

Air Force officials at the Pentagon could not answer how commanders will



BEN BLOKER/Stars and Stripes

Tech. Sgts. John Sherman and Vincent Garcia, left, airmen from the 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, coach their peers through a physical fitness practice test Monday during unit physical training at Ramstein's fitness center. Under new proposed guidelines, unit PT would no longer be mandatory, making the Air Force the first service to do away with such a provision.

be held accountable under the proposed guidelines but at least one wing commander has said he doesn't expect unit PT to disappear.

"What leadership doesn't want to happen is for people to make excuses for failing the PT test and say, 'My boss didn't let me have mandatory PT time,'" Col. Giovanni Tuck, the 15th Airlift Wing commander at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, said in a recent Air Force news release.

Tuck said he planned to let each unit determine "what is necessary to accomplish the mission," as it relates to physical training.

An 86th Airlift Wing spokesman said squadron commanders at Ramstein Air Base in Germany declined to be interviewed about their views on mandatory PT.

"They're not willing to speculate on any changes," since the new instruction hasn't been approved, Aaron Schoenfeld said Thursday.

Most of Ramstein's larger squadrons, however, give their airmen time during the duty day to work out. One exception is the 86th Security Forces Squadron, whose members are instructed to work out prior to or after their shift.

Only 1 percent of its airmen are on

a remedial fitness plan, less than other squadrons with mandatory, duty-day PT, according to data provided by the wing.

Among some Ramstein airmen, the possible move away from mandatory PT is viewed with mixed opinions.

"I think if the standards are going to be tougher, there should be more time to do PT," said Staff Sgt. Marc Taggart, 27, an 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics specialist from Tucson, Ariz.

Airman 1st Class Michael Yee, 23, a C-130 crew chief, thinks the Air Force should still give airmen time during the duty day to work out, but it should be a balance of unit PT and individual exercise.

"You should be fit all year round, I do agree with that," he said. But the one-workout-fits-all group mentality of unit PT isn't always beneficial for airmen, he said.

The tougher proposed standards include testing airmen twice a year — instead of once — and giving commanders the authority to boot an airman from the service for two consecutive PT test failures. Right now, a discharge isn't considered until an airman has four PT failures in a year.

"I think that is a pretty significant

New uniform regulations are issued

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force has tightened requirements for physical training uniforms, issuing strict guidelines dictating everything from the color of airmen's PT socks to the position of their waistbands. Underwear must be "appropriate and worn" with all PT uniform combinations.

The updated guidance, issued Wednesday, became effective immediately and applies to current workout gear as well as improved PT uniforms that will be available later this year, according to the Air Force message detailing the 20 requirements.

The guidance, incorporated into AFI 36-2903, details such requirements for personal PT as wearing reflective belts and armbands during periods of low light, buns brightly colored footwear and orders that socks must be white, though they can display small trademark logos.

The few exceptions to the policy are at the discretion of commanders for accessions, professional military education or academic training when unit distinction is required, such as identifying instructors from students. Temporary adjustments may also be authorized when safety is a concern or in a deployed location.

To view the Air Force message on new PT uniform requirements, go to stripes.com/go/policy

impact," said Maj. Alex Garcia, U.S. Air Forces in Europe fitness program consultant.

"I think in the past folks thought if I fail a couple of times then I would get serious."

Some trials of the new standards at Air Force bases have indicated the failure rate could skyrocket.

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Stripes Holiday Messages

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STARS AND STRIPES will accept Holiday Messages at Stripes.com from October 30 to December 18.

Messages received before November 27 will be published in the Middle East, Europe and Pacific editions on December 19.

Greetings will also be online for viewing at Stripes.com starting December 19. Visit Stripes.com for more details.

Official: IEDs pose worldwide threat

WASHINGTON — A senior military official says the use of homemade bombs extends well beyond Afghanistan and Iraq, making the weapons a global problem that requires an international solution.

In congressional testimony to be delivered Thursday, Army Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz said there have been more than 3,500 incidents involving improvised explosive devices in the past year and the number is growing.

Metz heads the U.S. military organization tasked with countering the bombs. He says violent extremists have easy access to the materials needed to make IEDs and use telecommunications networks to exchange information about how to improve them.

French families to sue over soldiers' deaths

PARIS — The families of two French soldiers killed in a 2008 ambush in Afghanistan are preparing to file a legal suit to try to find out if anyone in the chain of command was responsible for security lapses, a lawyer said Thursday.

Lawyer Gilbert Collard said he plans to lodge the complaint with Paris' military tribunal next week. The suit is for "deliberately endangering the lives of others," he said.

German general calls airstrike 'appropriate'

BERLIN — A top general with the German army says the decision to call in an airstrike on a pair of hijacked tanker trucks in Afghanistan was appropriate and that the final death toll in the incident has not been confirmed.

Gen. Wolfgang Schneiderhan told reporters Thursday he had read the report that was prepared on the Sept. 4 incident. A German colonel called in an airstrike against the tanker trucks, fearful that insurgents would use them to mount a suicide attack on his troops near Kunduz.

Schneiderhan said the report, prepared by NATO, was classified but "according to my evaluation, the airstrike was appropriate."

From The Associated Press

Arrests made in Baghdad blasts

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq announced the arrests of dozens of military and security personnel on Thursday over Baghdad suicide bombings that killed 155 people, trying to calm public outrage at the government's apparent inability to protect its people ahead of January elections and the pending U.S. troop withdrawal.

Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi, a military spokesman for the Iraqi capital, told The Associated Press that 11 army officers and 50 security officials have been taken into custody over Sunday's bombings — the worst attacks in Iraq in more than two years.

The massive blasts at the Justice Ministry and the Baghdad Provincial Administration angered many Iraqis, who questioned how the suicide bombers

could have gotten their explosives-laden vehicles through a downtown dotted with checkpoints and security personnel.

While other suspects have been detained, al-Moussawi said these were the first arrests of security officials in relation to the Sunday bombings. The military commander and the police chief of Baghdad's Salihya district, where the powerful blast occurred on Sunday, were among those arrested, al-Moussawi said.

Al-Moussawi said the suspects were arrested because they were responsible for protecting the area where the bombings occurred. He said the investigation will determine whether they were negligent or actually helping the insurgents.

If the investigation results show that other security officials were also negligent or helped the



HADI MIZBAN/AP

Iraqis gather Thursday in front of the Ministry of Justice building, which was destroyed in an attack Sunday that killed at least 155 people in Baghdad. The chief Iraqi military spokesman said Thursday that 11 army officers and 50 security officials have been taken into custody over the bombings.

insurgents, we will arrest them," he said.

News of the arrests comes as U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he is sending a senior U.N. official to Baghdad in response to a request from Iraq's prime minister for an investigation into an earlier, similar suicide bombing of two govern-

ment ministries. Those attacks, in August, killed more than 100 people.

Also Thursday, Kurdish lawmakers pushing for control of the northern oil-rich city of Kirkuk boycotted a parliament session that was to tackle the crucial law needed for January's nationwide balloting.

U.N. re-evaluating its Afghan mission after bloody attack

BY TODD PITMAN
The Associated Press

KABUL — Traumatized U.N. staffers in Afghanistan were under orders to stay home Thursday, one day after Taliban militants stormed a guest house in the capital and killed eight people in a brazen attack that is forcing the world body to re-evaluate its mission in the war-ravaged nation.

The attack underscored the risks facing U.N. and Afghan officials in organizing a runoff election following the fraud-marred first-round vote Aug. 20, and the massive challenge for the U.S.-led military force in curbing the determined Taliban insurgency.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was scheduled to brief the Security Council on assault on the Kabul guest house, which left five foreign U.N. staff and three Afghans dead. Initial reports said 11 people were killed.

U.N. spokesman Aleem Siddique said at least nine U.N. staff who survived the two-hour assault on the Bakhtar guest house will be evacuated to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates on Thursday.

The U.N. has ordered its employees to remain "on lockdown," with their movements restricted, Siddique said Thursday, declining to give details for security reasons. Another U.N. staffer said that meant most staff were



Afghan police officers stand guard Thursday at the bullet-riddled gate of a guest house used by U.N. staff in Kabul.

staying home.

The five U.N. staff killed Wednesday were from Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, the Philippines and the United States, Siddique said. The nine wounded suffered mostly cuts and bruises as they tried to escape, he said.

Afghan police and U.N. officials said two security guards and the brother-in-law of one of

Afghanistan's most powerful governors, Gul Agha Sherzai, were also killed, in addition to the three attackers.

The two-hour assault on the guest house began shortly before 6 a.m. when three gunmen wearing green uniforms and suicide vests broke into the three-story residential hotel.



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Scene

STARS AND STRIPES

IN THE STATES

FBI: Leader of radical group killed in raid

BY ED WHITE
The Associated Press

DETROIT — A leader of a radical U.S. Sunni Islam group killed in a shootout with federal agents near Detroit repeatedly told followers that the government was the enemy and they must be willing to take on the FBI — even if it meant death, authorities said.

"You cannot have a nonviolent revolution," Luqman Ameen Abdullah said, according to a 2008 conversation secretly recorded by a confidential FBI source.

Abdullah, 53, was killed Wednesday at a warehouse in Dearborn, where agents were at-

tempting to arrest him on charges that included conspiracy to sell stolen goods and illegal possession and sale of firearms. He was one of 11 people named in a criminal complaint after a two-year investigation.

FBI spokeswoman Sandra Berchtold said Abdullah refused to surrender, fired a weapon and was killed by gunfire from agents.

Federal authorities said Abdullah's son was arrested in nearby Windsor, Ontario.

Mujahid Carswell, 33, was arrested Thursday in Windsor by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He was considered armed and dangerous, according to the FBI.



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Detroit police officers enter the Masjid Al-Haqq mosque on Wednesday in Detroit. Luqman Ameen Abdullah, 53, imam of the Detroit mosque, was fatally shot while resisting arrest.

The 43-page criminal complaint described Abdullah as an extremist who believed the FBI bombed New York's World Trade Center in 1993 and the Oklahoma City federal building two years later.

Abdullah beat children with sticks at his Detroit mosque, the complaint claimed, and was

trained with his followers in the use of firearms, martial arts and swords.

Neither Abdullah nor his co-defendants were charged with terrorism. But he was "advocating and encouraging his followers to commit violent acts against the United States," FBI agent Gary

Leone wrote in an affidavit filed with the complaint.

Two of the 11 people were still at large Thursday. The head of the FBI in Detroit, Andrew Arena, called a news conference for Thursday and planned to meet privately with the Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan.

Overshot flight prompts review of pilot distractions

BY JOAN LOWY
AND KEN THOMAS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Northwest Airlines pilots who overshot their Minneapolis destination by 150 miles have prompted the Obama administration to broaden its look at distracted driving to include distracted flying, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said Wednesday.



Cole

The use of mobile devices and laptops while driving any type of vehicle is unsafe, LaHood told a hearing of the Senate Commerce, Science and

Transportation Committee.

"We're not going to equivocate on this. Any kind of distraction, whether it's trains, planes or automobiles is a distraction and we should figure out ways to get these cell phones, the texting ... and the use of laptops out of the hands of people who are supposed to be delivering the public to somewhere safely," LaHood said.

Meanwhile, a top commander said Thursday that the U.S. mili-

tary would have launched fighters to track down the errant flight if officials had been notified sooner, a top commander said Thursday.

Gen. Gene Renuart, who heads U.S. Northern Command, said he learned of the incident just four or five minutes before the Federal Aviation Administration regained contact with the pilots.

Renuart said fighter jets were taxiing to the runway and should have been airborne, but they

were held back when FAA officials told military commanders they thought they were re-establishing contact with the flight.

Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Randy Babbitt acknowledged Wednesday that air traffic controllers didn't notify the military as quickly as they should have.

The FAA revoked the licenses of the pilots — Timothy Cheney and Richard Cole.

White House overstated stimulus jobs by thousands

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An early progress report on President Barack Obama's economic recovery plan overstates by thousands the number of jobs created or saved through the stimulus program, a mistake that White House officials promise will be corrected in future reports.

The U.S. government's first accounting of jobs tied to the \$787 billion stimulus program claimed more than 30,000 positions paid for with recovery money. But that figure is overstated by least 5,000 jobs, or one in six, according to an Associated Press review of a

sample of stimulus contracts.

The AP review found some counts were more than 10 times as high as the actual number of jobs; some jobs credited to the stimulus program were counted two and sometimes more than four times; and other jobs were credited to stimulus spending when none was produced.

For example:

- A company working with the Federal Communications Commission reported that stimulus money paid for 4,231 jobs, when about 1,000 were produced.
- A Georgia community college reported creating 280 jobs with recovery money, but

none was created from the stimulus.

- A Florida child care center said its stimulus money saved 129 jobs but used the money on raises for existing employees.

There is no proof the White House sought to inflate numbers. But administration officials seized on the 30,000 figure as to show the stimulus was really on its way.

The White House promises many problems will be corrected in Friday's report.

"I think you'll see a pretty good degree of accuracy," said Ed DeSeve, an Obama adviser helping to oversee the stimulus program.

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House Democrats unveil sweeping health care bill

BY ERICA WERNER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After months of struggle, House Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday to extend health care coverage to millions who lack it and create a new option of government-run insurance. A vote is likely next week on the plan patterned closely on President Barack Obama's own.

Speaking on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Congress was "on the cusp of delivering on the promise of making affordable, quality health insurance available to every American — and laying the foundation for a brighter future for generations to come."

Officials said the measure, once fully phased in over several

years, would extend coverage to 96 percent of Americans. Its principal mechanism is creation of a new government-regulated insurance "exchange" where private companies could sell policies in competition with the government. Federal subsidies would be available to millions of lower-income individuals and families to help them afford the policies.

The ceremony marked a pivotal moment in Democrats' year-long attempt to answer Obama's call for legislation to remake

the nation's health care system by extending insurance, ending industry practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions, and slowing the growth of medical spending nationwide.

Democrats issued a statement saying their measure "lowers costs for every patient" and would not add to federal deficits. They put the cost of coverage at under \$900 billion over 10 years, a total that evidently didn't include additional spending.

"[Congress is] ... laying the foundation for a brighter future for generations to come."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi



Obama signs tougher hate crimes bill

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For this accomplishment, President Barack Obama sought maximum publicity.

There was a bill signing at a wooden desk set up in the East Room, with the media invited, followed by a reception for joyous, champagne-sipping supporters and an address to them, again, from the East Room.

Obama was keeping a campaign promise to gays and lesbians by putting his signature on a bill to include violence against homosexuals in federal hate crimes law.

Of several such commitments to gay and lesbian supporters, it's the first one he's kept. Other promises are either pending or stalled entirely, proving a

source of continued dismay for gay and lesbian advocates who worked to help him get elected.

As a candidate, Obama promised to end the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that bars homosexuals from serving openly in the military.

He pledged to work to overturn the Defense of Marriage Act, which limits how states, local and federal bodies can recognize partnerships and determine benefits.

He also promised to outlaw job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Nine months into his term, those promises aren't close to being met.

While pleased by Wednesday's signing ceremony, Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said there is still a lot of work to be done.

Two men shot outside L.A. synagogue

BY SOLVEJ SCHOU
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A gunman shot and wounded two men in the parking garage of a San Fernando Valley synagogue early Thursday and Jewish schools and temples were put on alert in case it was not an isolated attack.

Two men in their 40s were shot in the legs near the Adat Yeshurun Valley Sephardic Orthodox synagogue in North Hollywood, Deputy Police Chief Michel Moore said.

The men, both members of the synagogue, had arrived in separate cars for the morning service shortly before 6:30 a.m. when the gunman approached one and, without speaking, shot him and the other man, Moore said. The men were hospitalized in good condition.

Police later detained and handcuffed a man not far from the synagogue. The youth, believed to be about 17 years old, matched



NICK UT/AP

Los Angeles firefighters and synagogue parishioners talk after a gunman shot and wounded two men Thursday in the parking garage of a North Hollywood synagogue.

the "very loose" description of the attacker, who was described as a black man wearing a hoodie, Moore said.

Officers cordoned off the area and continued to search for a possible suspect, Moore said.

There were no security guards in the parking garage but investi-

gators will look at the synagogue's security videos, he said.

"We have to assume, because it was a synagogue, it was a service (and) that there was no other apparent motive, we're looking at it as a hate crime," Lt. John Romeo said.



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STARS AND STRIPES.
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Calif. bridge failure stirs fear, anger

Rod collapse closes span indefinitely

By JASON DEAREN
AND SUDHIN THANAWALA
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Engineers desperately tried to repair the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge as commuters encountered a second day of heavy traffic and crowded trains Thursday after a 5,000-pound piece of steel plummeted onto the span during rush hour this week.

Transportation officials still have no firm estimate of when the bridge will reopen.

"Caltrans is doing everything it can to return the bridge back to a safe state," Bart Ney, a spokesman for the state transportation department said at a news conference Thursday morning.

The bridge closure made for a rough commute, with heavy traffic and crowded trains. Other bridges that provide access to San Francisco were especially congested, as some of the estimated 280,000 commuters who use the Bay Bridge each day looked for alternate routes.

The accident has resurrected fears about the safety of a span that millions watching the 1989 World Series broadcast learned had failed during an earthquake.

The terrifying scene on Tuesday left only one motorist with minor injuries, but stirred anger over the constant delays and soaring costs of the still-unfinished new eastern span of the Bay Bridge, which has become



The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge has been closed indefinitely after a rod installed during September's emergency repairs snapped.
MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

the largest public works project in California history.

"I thought I was going into the Bay," said Andrea Nelson, who saw the crossbar and two rods fall and bounce on the road ahead of her as she headed into San Francisco for dinner. She swerved and her car spun out as she ran over the rods, which gashed her tires.

"I have lost so much confidence in the experts, the millions of dollars that are being spent to reconstruct and build a new bridge," she said. "I just find it shocking and unacceptable."

The pieces that failed were parts of major repairs done last month after state inspectors discovered a crack in an "eyebar," an important structural beam. The rods that broke were holding a saddle-like cap that had been installed to strengthen the cracked eyebar.

Caltrans engineers were trying

to figure out why the recent repairs — which were supposed to last until the new bridge opened in 2013 — failed in less than two months.

The catalyst for a replacement span was the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, which caused a 50-foot section of the bridge's upper deck to collapse onto the deck below, causing another section to give way. It took state officials until 1997 to decide it would be cheaper to build a new span than retrofit the existing one.

The cost initially put forth for replacing the bridge was \$1.3 billion with a 2004 completion; that has grown to \$7.2 billion with a 2013 opening.

Ney said earlier Wednesday the strong winds likely played a role in the failure, which heightened concerns by some experts about the integrity of the repair and the bridge's safety in an earthquake.

Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, a civil engineering professor at the University of California, Berkeley who studied the effects of the 1989 earthquake on the bridge, called the repair last month a "Band-Aid" that jeopardized public safety to get the bridge open quickly.

"When this eyebar fractured, this is very serious element of this part of the bridge. So the safety issue is very serious here," he said. "The repair done, in my opinion, is very unusual to put it mildly."

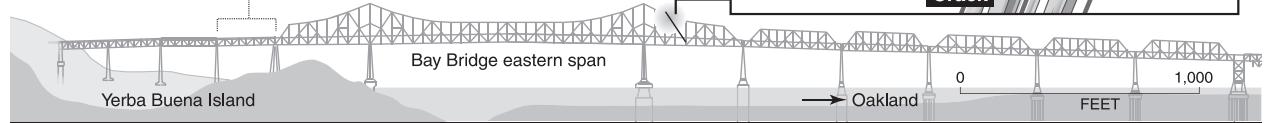
The main contractor on the repairs, C.C. Meyers, Inc., stood by the work, but deferred to Caltrans to determine why the pieces failed, spokeswoman Beth Ruyak said.

The Federal Highway Administration is helping Caltrans investigate.

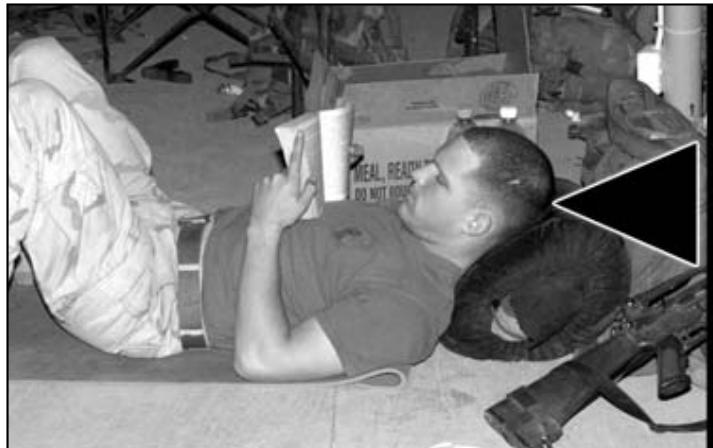
Damage to Bay Bridge

Two tie rods and part of a steel saddle that had been installed as a fix Labor Day weekend in San Francisco broke Tuesday and fell onto the upper deck roadway.

Tie-in segment that was installed Labor Day weekend



SOURCE: Bay Bridge Public Information Office



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STARS AND STRIPES

Growth seen as sign that recession may be over

By JEANNINE AVERA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy grew at a 3.5 percent pace in the third quarter, the best showing in two years, fueled by government-supported spending on cars and homes. It's the strongest signal yet that the economy has entered a new, though fragile, phase of recovery and that the worst recession since the 1930s has ended.

Going forward, many analysts expect the pace of the budding recovery to be plodding due to rising unemployment and continuing difficulties by both consumers and businesses to secure loans.

"This welcome milestone is just another step, and we still have a long road to travel until the economy is fully recovered," said Christina Romer, President Barack Obama's chief economist. "It will take sustained, robust ... growth to bring the unemployment rate down substantially. Such a decline in unemployment is, of course, what we are all working to achieve."

The much-awaited turnaround reported Thursday by the Commerce Department ended the streak of four straight quarters of contracting economic activity, the first time that's happened on records dating to 1947.

It also marked the first increase since the spring of 2008, when the economy experienced a short-lived uptick in growth.

The third-quarter's performance — the strongest since right before the country fell into recession in December 2007 — was slightly better than the 3.3 percent growth rate economists expected.

Armed with cash from government support programs, consumers led the rebound in the third quarter, snapping up cars and homes.

Consumer spending on big-ticket manufactured goods soared at an annualized rate of 22.3 percent in the third quarter, the most since the end of 2001. The jump largely reflected car purchases spurred by the government's "Cash for Clunkers" program.

Sun porch or weapons bunker? N.Y. is putting some of its oldest armories on the market

By CHRIS CAROLA
The Associated Press

GLENS FALLS, N.Y. — The turret offers a great view of the nearby Adirondack Mountains, the weapons bunkers can serve as wine cellars and the cavernous gymnasium could be turned into the ultimate rec room.

Those are just some of the possibilities for the 38,000-square-foot Glens Falls Armory, slated for possible sale by New York state. Of course, the rehabilitation potential is a far cry from the structure's original function as a munitions storehouse, military drill hall and last stand should war revisit America's shores.

The 115-year-old fortresslike structure is one of several stone and brick state-owned armories being put up for sale as New York sheds some of these unique buildings in the name of modernization.

As the Army National Guard here and in other states continues to evolve into a 21st century fighting force, units are ditching many of their older buildings — and the name armory — for more modern digs dubbed "readiness centers." In New York, with the nation's largest collection of the oldest and most architecturally significant armories, that means disposing of imposing structures.

The unit based at Glens Falls recently shifted to its new \$11.5 million readiness center in a suburban industrial park.

The New York National Guard has 52 active armories, down from 70 a decade ago, most of them on the National Register of Historic Places. They include the Seventh Regiment Armory covering an entire Manhattan block and the castellike Connecticut Street Armory in Buffalo. Some, like Glens Falls, were designed in a medieval military style by state architect Isaac Perry in the late 1800s, others from the 1930s were designed in a more Gothic style by William Haugaard.

Nationwide, there are nearly 3,000 readiness centers, including armories of various ages, according to the National Guard Bureau based in Arlington, Va. In 2002, there were about 3,150. How many of the nation's older armories are still being used by the guard units isn't known.

After a New York armory is decommissioned, it's considered surplus state property and handed over to the state Office of General Services. The properties are first offered to local municipalities, but if there are no takers, OGS puts the armories on the auction block.

The culling of old armories comes as the

National Guard's troop strength in the state has fallen from about 20,000 to 10,400, even as the Army Guard's overall troop strength has risen since 2006 to more than 358,000. Today's Guard conducts more training in the field or at Army Reserve facilities, diminishing the need for mustering inside old armories lacking the latest technology, said Eric Durr, spokesman for the New York National Guard.

The trend is mirrored in neighboring Pennsylvania, home to some 160 National Guard facilities, most built during or after World War II, although a handful of the oldest date back to the 1910s.

"We are in a building boom right now, and we're also going to be in the process of selling some of the old armories and getting them off the books," said Lt. Col. Chris Cleaver of the Pennsylvania National Guard. "It's just not cost-effective to keep them up and running."

Turrets, dimly lit gyms and basement warrens of bunkerlike rooms are just some of the common features prospective buyers see during presale open houses in Glens Falls and other New York locations where armories are being sold.

While initial interest is usually high once a prospective buyer walks in the door, that enthusiasm can dim considerably once the tour is over, he said.

"It dawns on them: it's a lot of area, it's a big space and it's going to take a lot of money to fulfill their vision," said Chuck Sheifer, chief of OGS' Bureau of Land Management.

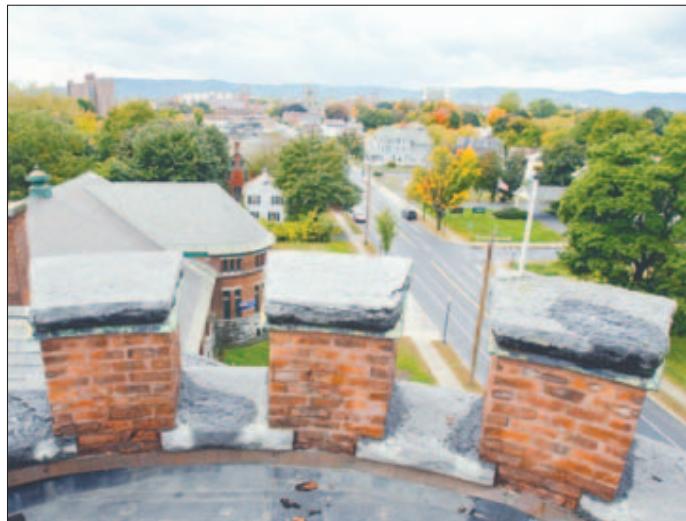
Despite their often massive size and design quirks — or because of them — many old armories have been converted to other uses. The armories in Ticonderoga and Malone are now community centers. The Hudson armory was turned into an antiques center in the mid-1990s, while Tonawanda's is home to a catering business.

At least one former armory serves as a private residence. In Amsterdam, on the Mohawk River 30 miles northwest of Albany, Susan and Manfred Phemister have converted their 1890s armory into the Amsterdam Castle, a combination home, meeting space and bed-and-breakfast.

The New York City transplants have spent "hundreds of thousands of dollars" refurbishing the 36,000-square-foot building, according to Susan Phemister, a business executive with Thomson Reuters in Manhattan.

"The joy of living in an armory is that you have the most beautiful, extraordinary building," she said.

FORTRESSES FOR SALE



MIKE GROLL/AP

The Glens Falls Armory in Glens Falls, N.Y., offers a view of the Adirondack Mountains. The 115-year-old fortresslike structure is one of several armories that could be put on the auction block.



The Tonawanda armory — now known as the Tonawanda Castle — is home to a catering business.

David Duprey
 AP

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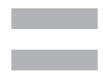
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IN THE WORLD

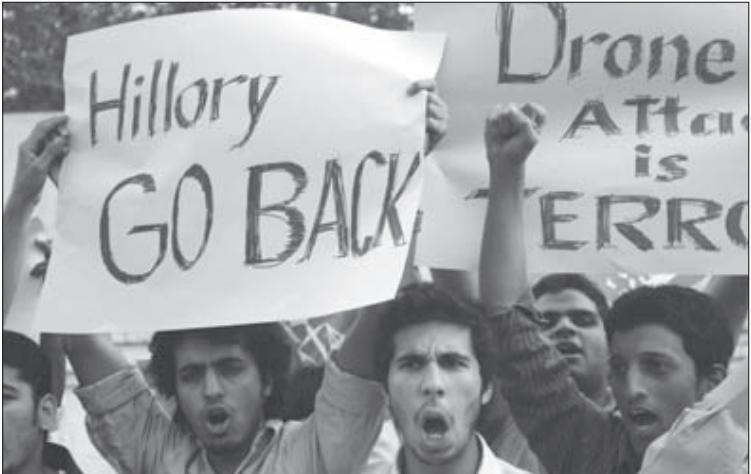
Clinton criticizes Pakistan

‘Hard to believe’ officials can’t find terrorists, she says

BY ROBERT BURNS
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday that Pakistan squandered opportunities over the years to kill or capture leaders of the al-Qaida terrorist network responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks.

While U.S. officials have said they believe Osama bin Laden and senior lieutenants have been hiding in the rugged terrain along the border with Afghanistan, Clinton’s blunt comments suggested that Pakistan’s government has done too little to act against al-Qaida’s top echelon. “I find it hard to believe that nobody in



Pakistani students protest the visit of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday in Lahore. Clinton decried that al-Qaida’s top echelon is still functioning.

your government knows where they are and couldn’t get them if they really wanted to,” Clinton told Pakistani journalists said in Lahore. “Maybe that’s the case. Maybe they’re not gettable. I don’t know.”

With the country reeling from Wednesday’s devastating bombing that killed at least 105 people in Peshawar, Clinton also engaged in an intense give-and-take with students at the Government College of Lahore. She insisted inaction by the government would have ceded ground to terrorists.

“If you want to see your territory shrink, that’s your choice,” she said, adding that she believed it would be a bad choice.

The Peshawar bombing, the deadliest

attack in Pakistan since 2007, appeared timed to overshadow her arrival.

Clinton stressed that a key purpose of her trip was to reach out to ordinary Pakistanis. But her tough comments about Pakistan’s will to take on al-Qaida leaders might not sit well among Pakistanis who long have complained about American demands on their country.

Clinton declined to touch on missile attacks from U.S. drones against militants inside Pakistan. The subject has stirred some of the strongest feelings of anti-Americanism in the country.

“There is a war going on,” Clinton said, saying only that the U.S. wants to help Pakistan be successful.

Christians: Thousands of Bibles seized in Malaysia

The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysian authorities have confiscated more than 15,000 Bibles in recent months because they referred to “God” as “Allah,” a translation that has been banned, Christian church officials said Thursday.

The alleged seizure of the Bibles, imported from neighboring Indonesia, is certain to reignite complaints by religious minorities that their right to practice their faiths freely has come under threat as the government panders to the Muslim majority.

A growing sense of discrimination among the minorities is chipping away at Malaysia’s reputation as a harmonious multiethnic nation that practices a moderate brand of Islam.

The Rev. Hermen Shastri, general secretary of the Council of Churches of Malaysia, said authorities seized 10,000 copies on Sept. 11 because the Indonesian-language Bibles contained the word “Allah.”

Indonesian language is similar to Malaysian language, both of which use “Allah” as translation for God in both Islamic and Christian traditions.

Yemen: Al-Qaida suspect among 6 arrested

SANA'A, Yemen — Yemeni officials say six Somalis have been arrested south of the capital — including one man suspected of being a member of al-Qaida.

The Yemeni interior ministry said the men were arrested Thursday during a security raid about 215 miles south of Sana'a. Many Somalis cross the Gulf of Aden illegally to reach Yemen and the richer Gulf countries beyond.

S. Korean is accused of spying for N. Korea

SEOUL — A South Korean university lecturer accused of spying for North Korea since the early 1990s has been indicted on es-

pionage charges, prosecutors said Thursday.

The suspect, identified by the surname Lee, was charged with giving North Korea confidential information, including the locations of South Korean military facilities and an army operations manual, prosecutors said. The 37-year-old man was arrested on Sept. 11 and indicted Tuesday, the statement said.

Taiwan seeks to calm uproar over U.S. beef

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou moved Thursday to ease a political storm over the government’s decision to lift a ban on certain U.S. beef imports, saying adequate safeguards are in place to guard against mad cow disease.

More than 100 people protested against last week’s decision to remove the 6-year-old ban. Health experts have said while bone-in beef like Porterhouse steak may be harmless, minced beef and offal carry higher risks of disease. Ma said all the meat is safe.

British drink criticized over alcohol content

LONDON — A century-old British lemonade has run into trouble in Maine because a high school student complained the company’s Victorian-style drink contains alcohol. Fentimans Operations director Tiffany McFirry says the drink is classified as a soft drink because its alcohol content is below 0.5 percent.

From The Associated Press



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STARS AND STRIPES

China, U.S. spar over trade issues

The Associated Press

HANGZHOU, China — Doggedly cordial trade talks between top Chinese and U.S. officials were overshadowed Thursday by Beijing's surprise probe into American auto exports, underlining tensions ahead of President Barack Obama's first visit to China.

The start of the formal talks ran two hours late as discussions overnuts and bolts issues dragged on.

Despite the last-minute surprise, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke said he believed the meeting in Hangzhou had "laid the foundation" for Obama's Nov. 15-18 visit to China.

The talks wrapped up with the signing of 11 technical agreements on cooperation in energy, high technology, tourism and other commercial issues.

China agreed to end a ban on imports of U.S. pork that was imposed last spring due to swine flu fears, and to crack down on rampant piracy of music and other copyrighted materials.

The U.S. side applauded China's commitments to draft rules to treat products made by U.S.-invested foreign enterprises in China as Chinese domestic products, rather than foreign ones, in government purchases.

Trade spats between the two countries worsened after the Obama administration last month announced up to 35 percent duties on Chinese-made tires, to be imposed for the next three years.

Still, U.S. officials have said they do not expect any of the various simmering disputes to undo progress in other areas, or to sour overall ties.

Ford Motor, General Motors and Chrysler export only about 9,000 cars to China a year. GM so far this year has sold 1.3 million cars and trucks in China, most of them built there in a joint venture with Chinese automaker SAIC.



Locke

By GEORGE JAHN
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Iran has given an "initial response" to the International Atomic Energy agency on a plan that calls for Tehran to ship much of its enriched uranium abroad, the IAEA said Thursday.

The wording of the IAEA statement appeared to dash Western hopes of a quick deal that would delay Tehran's ability to make a nuclear weapon.

The U.S. and allied countries were seeking Iranian agreement to ship out 70 percent of its low-enriched uranium to Russia in one shipment for further enrichment and conversion into fuel for a Tehran research reactor.

Sending that amount in one batch would not leave Tehran

with enough material to make weapons-grade uranium should it decide to make a warhead.

Experts say Iran would need at least a year to produce enough to make up for the exported material, giving the international community a window in its efforts to persuade the Islamic Republic to freeze its enrichment program.

But Iran has signaled in recent days that it was unwilling to give up most of its enriched stockpile in a single shipment and would seek to re-negotiate terms worked out by IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei in talks last week with Iran, Russia, France and the United States. That Iranian stance was reinforced by the language of the IAEA statement.

Besides speaking of "an initial response from the Iranian author-

ties" — suggesting that Iran was looking for further talks — the statement indicated the possible need for further negotiations. It said ElBaradei expressed "hope that agreement can be reached soon" and was consulting with the four nations involved.

The plan would commit Iran to turn over more than 2,600 pounds of low-enriched uranium — more than the commonly accepted amount of low-enriched uranium needed to produce weapons-grade uranium.

The West says Tehran agreed in principle to export that amount in one shipment during Oct. 1 talks in Geneva with the U.S. and five other world powers.

But if Tehran did accept the plan in Geneva, it has subsequently backtracked.



HANS PUNZ/AP

Herman Nackaerts, head of a U.N. nuclear inspection team, speaks at Vienna's Schwechat airport on Thursday after inspectors returned from viewing a previously secret Iranian uranium enrichment site.

Russia, U.S. address squabbles over arms

By DAVID NOWAK
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia and the United States are scrambling to address disagreements over a new nuclear arms reduction treaty with little over a month left until the existing agreement between the Cold War adversaries expires.

Despite the narrowing time-frame, both sides expressed optimism at the end of a day of negotiations Thursday between U.S. National Security Advisor James Jones and Russia's foreign minister and National Security Council head.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko said in televised remarks he was sure Jones' "successful" visit would help forge a new treaty.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said "intensive efforts" would be required to reach an accord but he struck a generally optimistic tone.

On leaving the Foreign Ministry, Jones told The Associated Press that the two had a "very good discussion on a number of bilateral

issues," without elaborating.

President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev agreed at a Moscow summit in July to cut the number of nuclear warheads each possesses to between 1,500 and 1,675 within seven years.

But the Washington-based Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation recently noted several sticking points that may take negotiations into the 11th hour.

The obstacles include a divergence on the number of so-called delivery vehicles — a reference to missiles and bombers.

Washington has reportedly proposed a limit of 1,100 such weapons platforms, while Russia wants less than half, a discrepancy too great to forge an agreement, the center concluded.

Other hurdles may include the issue of whether to include stockpiled weapons — those not operationally deployed — in the warhead count.

The U.S. says no, while Russia would prefer blanket inclusion.

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FACES



Early fans: Jackson delivers

The movie "Michael Jackson's This Is It" premiered to high praise from fans who applauded at each song as though they were at a concert and marveled as the singer stepped nimbly through his moonwalk and other signature moves.

Jackson, 50 when he died last June, kept pace with backup dancers half his age during rehearsals for such hits as "Thriller," "Billie Jean," "Beat It" and "Human Nature." The film was shot as Jackson prepared for a marathon concert stand in London that never happened.

"He looked better than he did when he was 30," said Jessica Childs, a 21-year-old aspiring dancer who caught the Los Angeles premiere. "His voice stood out."

Four of Jackson's brothers — Jermaine, Marlon, Tito and Jackie — attended, saying afterward that seeing their brother on film filled them with love and pride.

"It's amazing to see him up there doing his thing," Jackie Jackson said. "To see him up there doing his performance like that has brought a lot of tears to my eyes, sitting there watching him. Because I love him so much. That's why I keep this with me at all times in my pocket. It's a little token of him," he said, pulling out a white-glove key ring fashioned after one of his brother's best known accessories.

Performances in the film included a medley of Jackson 5 hits the singer originally performed with his siblings.

Most of the material was intended for Jackson's private use, but it now serves as the last bow of a performer who ruled the pop charts in the 1980s and later retired to a reclusive life amid allegations of child molestation.

The mood at simultaneous premieres around the world Tuesday and Wednesday was tearful yet celebratory. At the Los Angeles premiere near the arena where much of the rehearsal



From left, Tito, Marlon and Jackie Jackson arrive at the premiere. "It was closure for me," said Marlon Jackson. "And it was a moment where I just felt his spirit inside of me. And that made me feel good."

footage was shot, "This Is It" director and longtime Jackson collaborator Kenny Ortega introduced the film to the audience, calling it the "last sacred documentation of our leader and our friend."

"It was touching. Well done. It was beautiful," said Casey Gosh, 24, who was invited to the premiere by a friend. "It told his story. You really felt like you knew him. It was his final performance."

"I loved seeing him in action again," said David Montalvo, who saw "This Is It" in New York City. "It's like you were able to see Michael again for the last time, so it was a good chance to say goodbye to him."

The footage revealed just how elaborate and demanding Jackson's comeback run of 50 planned concerts last July would have been. One segment showed how Jackson would have made a grand stage entrance inside a mechanical spider. Another, intended as a 3-D film accompaniment on "Thriller," featured an expansive graveyard set.

Early reaction from critics was equally positive. Matt Soergel of The Florida Times of Jacksonville calls it an "exuberant, astonishingly entertaining concert film." "Looks like the world has missed one helluva concert," writes Kirk Honeycutt of The Hollywood Reporter. And Nekesa Mumbi

Moody of The Associated Press said, "The amazing performances Jackson delivers in this film are not a result of camera magic, but Jackson's own."

Before the Los Angeles premiere, Ortega wiped away tears as he greeted dancers and celebrity guests, including Paula Abdul. Among others attending were Will Smith, Jennifer Lopez, Paris Hilton, Neil Patrick Harris, Katy Perry and Motown Records founder Berry Gordy Jr.

It was the biggest cinematic blowout ever for a music film as "This Is It" opened for paying customers immediately after the premieres, with evening and midnight screenings in North America to middle-of-the-night and morning showings in Europe, Asia and elsewhere.

Distributor Sony, which paid \$60 million for the film rights, opened "This Is It" in 99 countries. It expands to 110 territories this weekend.

"I was tossing and turning with nervous feelings all night. Michael Jackson is a hero in my life, and I cannot wait to see the final shot of Michael," said Noh Kyung-ae, a 34-year-old accountant, sobbing at a movie theater in Seoul, South Korea.

Clocking in at one hour, 51 minutes, the film was culled from more than 100 hours of footage.

— The Associated Press

Swayze's widow feels sadness 'on a cellular level'

Patrick Swayze's widow has told a crowd near Los Angeles that the loss of her husband of 34 years has left her with sadness "on a cellular level."

Lisa Niemi, making her first public comments since Swayze's death last month from pancreatic cancer, told attendees Tuesday at a conference that her pain "made all the sadness and grief previous to that look like an intellectual concept."

Though she cared for her husband during his 22-month battle with the disease, Niemi says grappling with the 57-year-old "Dirty Dancing" star's death was still "an animal all its own."



Niemi

Ex-Letterman writer claims hostile environment

A former writer for David Letterman says she quit his show because of alleged sexual favoritism and a hostile work environment.

Nell Scovell, writing for Vanity Fair online Tuesday, said Letterman didn't "hit on her" during her stint with NBC's "Late Night with David Letterman." But Scovell writes that he paid extra attention to her and was rumored to be involved in sexual relationships with other female staffers. Scovell says she believes those women benefited professionally. But Scovell said she doesn't want to file a lawsuit.

hot dish

Achtung, baby: U2 will play a free concert in Berlin to help the city celebrate 20 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. Music network MTV said the Irish rockers will perform in front of the Brandenburg Gate on Nov. 5 during the MTV Europe Music Awards. The show will be beamed into the awards ceremony at Berlin's O2 World arena. The wall fell Nov. 9, 1989, ending almost 30 years of separation between east and west.

Jonathan Jackson, the actor who originally played Luke and Laura Spencer's son Lucky on ABC's "General Hospital," returned to the show Tuesday. Jackson, 27, began playing Lucky at 11 and earned three daytime Emmy awards in six years.

Former television game show host Bob Barker, who ended episodes of "The Price is Right" by asking viewers to spay and neuter their pets, donated \$1 million to Drury University to establish a professorship on animal rights that he hopes will lead to a full undergraduate degree program.

Five weeks into the latest TV season, three of the four top broadcast networks have bigger prime-time audiences than they had in 2008. CBS, Fox and NBC all show ratings gains this year. ABC is down, but it has some of the most promising new shows.

— The Associated Press

DIVORCE

Court records show Susannah Feldman, wife of Corey Feldman, has filed for divorce after seven years of marriage, citing irreconcilable differences. The couple have a 5-year-old son.



AP file

FAITH



HAMMER MUSEUM/AP

With his latest project, an illustrated, comic-book version of "The Book of Genesis," the reclusive R. Crumb re-imagines the Creation story with an eye for what they tell us about humanity.

Artist zings Book of Genesis

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — His religious upbringing might well be as unorthodox as the psychedelic-inspired comic-strip characters that have made R. Crumb the most famous underground artist of his time.

Which, come to think of it, may have made Crumb the perfect artist for his latest project, an illustrated, comic-book version of "The Book of Genesis," the work that comprises the first 50 chapters of the Bible.

Raised in a secular household that was headed by a rigidly strict, ex-Marine father who was actually a closeted atheist, Crumb was sent off to Catholic school at age 6 because his father

had always admired the discipline Catholic nuns were famous for instilling in their students.

"We never got a lot of religion at home," Crumb says of himself and his siblings. "But we certainly got the whole indoctrination and brainwashing in school."

Sixty years later, the creator of comic book characters like the R-rated Fritz the Cat and the bizarre Mr. Natural has finally put that religious training to good use.

"The Book of Genesis Illustrated by R. Crumb" will go on display at Los Angeles' Hammer Museum. After the exhibition closes in February it will move on to other cities, including New York and Portland, Ore.

Camp David preacher grabs Obama's attention

BY JACQUELINE L. SALMON
The Washington Post

The Rev. Jeremiah Wright is long gone; Rick Warren, just an Inauguration Day memory. The hordes of ministers around town who were hoping they'd somehow wind up with the first family in their pews have (mostly) given up.

The president has been pastorless for quite a while now. Well, sort of.

Seventy miles from Washington's prying eyes, Barack Obama has been attending church from time to time at Camp David, where services are led by a 39-year-old Navy chaplain with a famous last name, a compelling life story and a fervent belief in a God who works miracles.

Carey Cash, the great-nephew of singer Johnny Cash and the younger brother of a former Miss America, sees the hand of God in every part of his journey: from the football fields where he once aspired to the NFL to the medical facilities where he learned he'd never play again; from the battered Humvee where he came under fire on the streets of Baghdad to the tiny chapel where he preaches to the country's commander in chief in the Western Maryland mountains.

Although Cash was assigned to Camp David by the Navy, the president really likes the guy. Cash, Obama told religion reporters this summer, "delivers as powerful a sermon as I've heard in a while. I really think he's excellent."

But don't make the mistake of referring to the imposing 6-foot-4 Southern Baptist chaplain as the president's pastor. The White House has said that's not the case.

None of the president's advisers have forgotten the firestorm that engulfed Obama during the campaign when inflammatory sermons by Wright, Obama's longtime spiritual mentor at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, were made public.

The president himself cites it as part of the reason that he and his wife have been hesitant to pick a permanent church in Washington.

"Let's be blunt," said Obama, who has attended worship services once at Nineteenth Street Baptist Church and three times at St. John's Episcopal Church, most recently Sunday. "We were pretty affected by what happened at Trinity and the controversy surrounding Rev. Wright. That was deeply disturbing to us, and it was disappointing for us personally. It made us very sensitive to the fact that as president, the church we attend can end up being interpreted as speaking for us at all times."

At Camp David's tiny Evergreen Chapel, which is



Obama

off limits to the public and the media, the Obamas don't have to worry about that kind of scrutiny. The family shares the pews with a small number of military families stationed at the 143-acre retreat — an experience that the president has mentioned more than once, along with his high regard for Cash.

But that doesn't mean Obama endorses Cash's controversial views on Christian proselytizing in the military and on Islam, which the chaplain describes in a 2004 book as a violent faith that "from its very birth has used the edge of the sword as a means to convert or conquer those with different religious convictions."

"Sadly, grace is often absent in Islam, which is based upon binding religious law, requiring strenuous adherence to every tenet of the 'Five Pillars of Allah,'" Cash writes. "A religion that emerges from the soil of strict adherence to law as a means of gaining God's favor will always tend toward extreme self-sacrifice."

Cash has drawn criticism from the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, a watchdog group that monitors Christian proselytizing in the military, for his participation in Campus Crusade for Christ's Military Ministry, a program for evangelical chaplains to "help every troop, every leader, every family member hear and receive the lifesaving message about Jesus."

"This is an organization that has repeatedly stated its goal of transforming our military into a force of 'government-paid missionaries for Christ,'" said Chris Rodda, a foundation spokesman. "Any chaplain or commander who would support or condone these tactics or goals is a problem."

The White House declined to comment on the criticism. But those who served with Cash in Iraq have nothing but praise for his deep faith, warm manner and forceful sermons.

"I have absolutely no surprise that the president is moved and inspired by or finds that his message is powerful," said Brig. Gen. Frederick Padilla, Cash's commander during his deployment. "You don't have a heart beating in your chest if you don't feel this way when you hear this man talk."

Obama will have plenty of opportunities to hear Cash speak: The lieutenant commander and his wife, Charity, who have six children and a seventh on the way, will be at Camp David for much of Obama's term. Those who know Cash said they doubt preaching before the president would faze him.

"I don't think he's intimidated by persons of power and prestige," said Rodney Petersen, one of Cash's teachers when he did postgraduate work at the Boston University School of Theology. "I'm sure that he is polite and respectful, but he calls it like it is."

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Perspectives

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YOUR MONEY

Senate backs homebuyer tax credit extension

BY DINA ELBOGDADY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Senate has reached a broad bipartisan consensus on extending a lucrative tax credit for first-time homebuyers beyond the Nov. 30 deadline and expanding it to include some current homeowners, according to the Senate's Democratic leader.

Under the plan, people buying their first home would receive an \$8,000 tax credit if they sign a contract by April 30 and close on it by June 30, the office of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said on Wednesday. Homeowners shopping for a new primary residence would be eligible for a \$6,500 tax credit if they owned their home for five consecutive years in the previous eight.

In both cases, individuals who earn more than \$125,000 annually



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said there is wide backing for the latest homebuyer tax credit plan among Republicans, saying that "most members" support the measure.

and couples who earn more than \$250,000 would not be eligible.

Reid and others hope to attach their proposal to an unemployment benefits bill that may reach the Senate floor this week if lingering issues are resolved about whether to also include two unrelated Republican amendments.

The proposal is the latest of several regarding the tax credit that have been floated in recent days. Reid and others have been trying to cobble together a plan that would appeal to fiscal

conservatives.

On Wednesday, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said there is wide backing for the latest plan among Republicans, saying that "most members" support it and the underlying unemployment measure.

But Don Stewart, his spokesman, warned that nothing is a done deal.

"Everything is fluid" until there is unanimous agreement on what will reach the Senate floor, Stewart said.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Oct. 30)	.89.00
South Korean won (Oct. 30)	1,169.00
Euro costs (Oct. 30)	\$1.5163
Dollar buys (Oct. 30)	€ 0.6595
British pound (Oct. 30)	\$1.69

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6571
Canada (Dollar)	1.0746
China (Yuan)	6.8303
Denmark (Krone)	5.0352
Egypt (Pound)	5.4740
Euro	\$1.4790/0.6761
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7503
Hungary (Forint)	184.71
Israel (Shekel)	3.7480
Japan (Yen)	91.23
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2862
Norway (Krone)	5.6775
Philippines (Peso)	47.69
Poland (Zloty)	2.88
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3989
South Korea (Won)	1,185.70
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0217
Thailand (Baht)	33.48
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4984

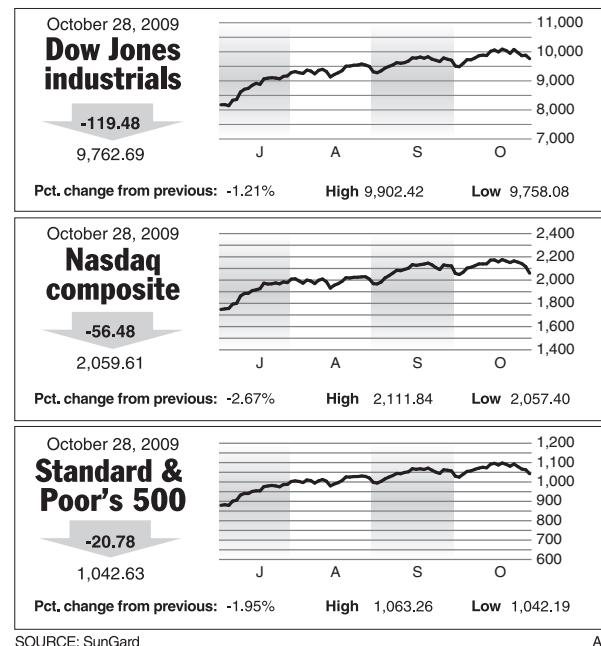
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.06
30-year bond	4.26

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

A DAY ON WALL STREET



SOURCE: SunGard

Sailors, Marines missing out on SBP enrollment

A typical officer retiring today who declines to enroll in the Survivor Benefit Plan lets the government off the hook for a subsidy worth \$50,100 in "net present value," say Department of Defense actuaries.

The typical enlisted retiree who chooses not to enroll in SBP is turning down a subsidy having a net present value of \$22,300.

Net present value is the dollar amount a new retiree would have to invest at time of retirement so that, when combined with monthly premiums, it would build an annuity for the surviving spouse of equal in value to SBP.

This is yardstick to measure the value of SBP. Here's another:

A 40-year-old retiree with a 38-year-old wife who elects full SBP coverage on a \$2,000 monthly retirement could expect to pay \$62,000 in total premiums if he died at age 65. If his widow were to live just seven more years, until she reaches 70, she would receive \$401,897 in SBP.

Anita Hattiangadi and Lauren Malone, scientific analysts for think tank CNA, used this last example in a Sept. 30 memorandum to the Marine Corps' deputy commandant. The memo suggested that too many retiring Marines are opting out of SBP and likely won't get another chance to sign up.

SBP is a great deal, say officials. That's been particularly true since Congress eliminated a sharp reduction in plan annuities that occurred at age 62 when surviving spouses became eligible for Social Security.

Despite the plan's recent improvements, including a premium "paid-up rule" after 30 years and attainment of age 70, many retirees, with consent of their spouses as the law requires, turn down SBP coverage. The take rate is particularly disappointing among new retirees from the sea services.

Sign-up rates in fiscal 2008, the latest data available, show that only 68 percent of married Navy members and 70 percent of married Marines elected SBP coverage as they retired. By contrast, 85 percent of new Army retirees and 82 percent of new Air Force are buying coverage.

The results suggest that the sea services aren't doing enough to educate their retiring members and spouses on the SBP plan.

Why is it such a good deal? For

starters, the government subsidizes 47 percent of the cost, said Gary McGee, assistant director for military pay policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Commercial life insurance plans aren't subsidized. Indeed, insurance companies set their rates at least high enough to make a profit.

McGee calls SBP a "great" benefit. Enrollees pay premiums equal to 6.5 percent of monthly retired pay. These are "before tax" dollars which already is an advantage over premiums paid for commercial insurance which are after-tax dollars. "This can make a significant difference," McGee said.

Each service runs its own SBP program,

McGee added.

"In terms of explaining it to their folks, I'd say the Army is very effective," McGee said.

Widows win

Up to 700 widows who remarried after age 57 and draw VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) will see full SBP restored, plus back payments worth thousands of dollars, in the wake of a recent appeals court victory brought by three military widows.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled Aug. 26 in Sharp v. United States that Defense officials erred in January 2004 after passage of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003, which restored eligibility for DIC to surviving spouses who remarry after age 57. The DOD began reducing SBP again for these widows by the amount of DIC restored.

The appeals court upheld a lower court decision that this violated the plain language of the law that made these widows the first survivors eligible for concurrent receipt of both SBP, which their husbands paid for in premiums, and DIC. Defense officials said they won't appeal the ruling.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin notifying eligible surviving spouses that full SBP is being restored and retroactive payments will be calculated back to Jan. 1, 2004, or date of remarriage after 57, whichever is later. Back payments could total more than \$9 million.

To comment, e-mail milupdate@aol.com, write to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA, 20120-1111 or visit www.militaryupdate.com

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Japan/Okinawa	--	\$2.637	--	\$2.646
Change in price	--	+9.8 cents	--	+9.6 cents
South Korea	\$2.767	--	\$3.002	\$2.894
Change in price	+10.0 cents	--	+10.2 cents	+9.6 cents
Guam	\$2.859*	\$2.979	\$3.089	--
Change in price	+10.0 cents	10.0 cents	+10.0 cents	--

For the week of Oct. 31 - Nov. 6 * Midgrade

Pirates nab U.K. couple on yacht

By MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN

The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — A British man kidnapped by Somali pirates while vacationing on a yacht with his wife said in an interview released Thursday that the sea bandits had crept aboard with guns while he was asleep and demanded money.

Paul Chandler told Britain's ITV News that he and his wife were being held aboard a container ship anchored about a mile from the Somali coast.

A fisherman said he saw two boats carrying eight pirates and a white couple that had arrived in the village of Ceel Huur.

"They kept asking for money and took everything of value on the boat," Chan-

dler said in the interview, but the satellite phone connection was lost before he could answer how the couple were being treated.

Dahir Dabahahan said a convoy of around 30 other pirates in six luxury vehicles met the group in front of fishermen preparing their boats of the day, he said.

"The pirates opened fire into the air, waving us to move away," he said.

Ceel Huur is just north of a notorious pirate stronghold in the town of Haradhere.

Earlier Thursday, the British navy had found the couple's empty yacht in international waters.

Warships have been searching for Paul and Rachel Chandler since their yacht, the Lynn Rival, sent out a distress signal last

Friday.

The British couple's relatives pleaded for their release and said the pirates targeted the wrong people.

"They are not a wealthy couple. They just wanted to take early retirement, to take a boat and to see more of the world," said Paul Chandler's sister, Jill Marshment, 69, of Bredon.

The couple, who have been married for 28 years, took early retirement about three years ago and have spent several six-month spells at sea.

Their voyages — which have taken them to the Greek islands, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Oman, Yemen, India — have been chronicled on a blog.

S. Korean officers dismissed over pig farmer's defection

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea dismissed a commander and four military officers from their posts Thursday after a pig farmer apparently defected to North Korea through the section of border their unit was guarding.

North Korea announced earlier this week that a 30-year-old man, Kang Tong Rim, arrived in the communist nation after crossing the heavily armed border Monday.

South Korea's military said it found a hole cut through barbed wire at the border, and confirmed that Kang had served at a base near the spot.

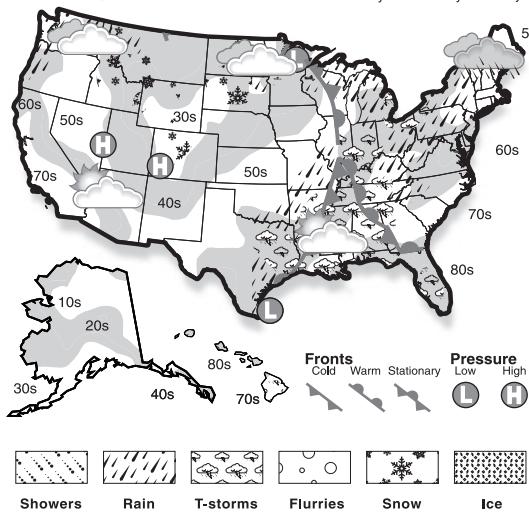
The apparent defection has raised questions about border security in a nation facing nuclear-armed North Korea. Last year, about 2,800 North Koreans arrived in the South, up from about 2,500 in 2007.

From The Associated Press

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Friday, Oct. 30



Thursday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	La Paz	64	37	pc
Amsterdam	60	48	pc	Lima	71	62	pc
Athens	68	60	pc	Lisbon	75	62	pc
Auckland	62	55	Rain	London	65	51	pc
Baghdad	75	71	Clr	Madrid	77	49	Clr
Basra	93	77	Clr	Managua	91	73	Clr
Bahrain	95	82	Clr	Manila	88	75	Clr
Bangkok	90	77	Rain	Mecca	100	79	Clr
Barbados	87	79	pc	Melbourne	70	49	Clr
Barcelona	70	62	pc	Mexico City	69	57	pc
Beijing	64	46	Clr	Montevideo	77	38	pc
Beirut	81	69	pc	Montreal	45	38	Rain
Belgrade	60	43	pc	Moscow	44	41	Rain
Berlin	51	48	Rain	Nairobi	77	56	pc
Bermuda	80	73	pc	Nassau	89	77	pc
Bogota	68	41	pc	New Delhi	87	62	Clr
Brasilia	78	68	Rain	Nice	68	55	pc
Brisbane	78	69	Rain	Osaka	73	50	Clr
Brussels	60	45	pc	Oslo	42	26	Clr
Bucharest	60	50	Rain	Panama	80	75	Rain
Budapest	60	41	pc	Paris	62	44	Clr
Buenos Aires	75	63	Clr	Perth	70	58	Rain
Cairo	87	70	Clr	Prague	52	46	Rain
Calgary	38	28	pc	Rio de Janeiro	78	71	Rain
Caracas	89	73	pc	Rome	75	50	Clr
Colombo	87	77	Rain	San Jose	80	65	Rain
Copenhagen	49	39	Rain	San Juan	90	78	Rain
Dhahran	102	73	pc	San Salvador	87	69	Rain
Dhaka	87	73	Clr	Santiago	90	50	pc
Dili	95	73	Clr	Sao Paulo	68	62	Clr
Dubai	89	76	Clr	Sapporo	58	47	Clr
Dublin	63	48	pc	Seoul	68	44	pc
Frankfurt	56	41	pc	Singapore	87	77	Rain
Geneva	57	35	pc	Sofia	59	47	Rain
Guatemala	75	60	Rain	Stockholm	42	33	Rain
Hanoi	88	75	pc	Sydney	75	57	Rain
Harare	x	x	Clr	Taipei	86	69	Clr
Havana	91	71	Rain	Tegucigalpa	85	62	pc
Helsinki	37	33	Snow	Tehran	66	55	Rain
Hong Kong	84	75	Clr	Tel Aviv	86	67	Clr
Islamabad	83	50	pc	Tokyo	69	60	Clr
Istanbul	63	57	Rain	Turin	62	44	pc
Jakarta	92	74	Clr	Toronto	54	50	Rain
Jerusalem	86	67	Clr	Tunis	74	58	Clr
Johannesburg	77	55	pc	Valletta	72	58	pc
Kabul	59	41	Rain	Vancouver	47	36	Rain
Kiev	52	42	Rain	Vienna	57	44	pc
Kuala Lumpur	90	74	Rain	Warsaw	48	37	Rain
Kuwait	87	68	Rain	Zurich	58	32	pc

Weather Underground • AP

Friday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Casper	40	18	Clr	Erie	65	51	Rain	Jacksonville	84	69	Cldy	Montgomery	82	66	Cldy	Richmond	68	49	Cldy	Spokane	48	34	Cldy			
Abilene, Tex.	59	45	Cldy	Charleston, S.C.	77	59	PCldy	Eugene	63	46	Cldy	Junoee	42	36	Rain	Nashville	73	61	Rain	Roanoke	63	47	PCldy	Springfield, Ill.	62	59	Rain			
Akron, Ohio	65	50	Rain	Charleston, W.Va.	74	52	Cldy	Evansville	66	61	Rain	Kansas City	53	44	PCldy	New Orleans	83	75	Cldy	Rochester	66	47	Rain	Springfield, Mo.	54	46	Cldy			
Albany, N.Y.	60	41	PCldy	Charlotte, N.C.	70	54	Cldy	Fairbanks	21	7	Cldy	Key West	89	82	PCldy	New York City	61	47	Clr	Rockford	57	55	Cldy	Syracuse	60	46	Rain			
Albuquerque	48	26	Clr	Chattanooga	75	58	Cldy	Fargo	39	37	Rain	Knoxville	75	58	Cldy	Newark	61	47	PCldy	Sacramento	70	44	Clr	Tallahassee	84	68	PCldy			
Allentown, Pa.	62	43	Cldy	Cheyenne	37	18	Clr	Flagstaff	45	13	PCldy	Lake Charles	73	69	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	67	54	Cldy	St Louis	62	56	Rain	Tampa	88	73	PCldy			
Amarillo	55	28	PCldy	Chicago	60	58	Clr	Flint	62	51	Rain	Lansing	65	56	Rain	North Platte	40	22	PCldy	St Petersburg	87	74	PCldy	Toledo	66	54	Rain			
Anchorage	35	23	Clr	Cincinnati	70	58	Rain	Fort Smith	61	49	Clr	Las Vegas	69	42	Clr	Oklahoma City	53	43	PCldy	St Thomas	87	78	PCldy	Topeka	55	41	PCldy			
Asheville	67	52	Cldy	Cleveland	67	53	Rain	Fort Wayne	64	55	Rain	Lexington	74	59	Cldy	Orlando	50	39	Cldy	Salem, Ore.	61	48	Cldy	Tucson	63	34	Clr			
Atlanta	69	59	Clid	Colorado Springs	44	17	PCldy	Fresno	70	42	Clr	Lincoln	51	38	Cldy	Orlando	87	72	PCldy	Salt Lake City	48	28	Cldy	Tulsa	58	45	PCldy			
Atlantic City	62	42	Clid	Columbia, S.C.	73	56	Cldy	Goodland	43	25	PCldy	Little Rock	59	58	Rain	Paducah	65	62	Rain	San Angelo	62	42	PCldy	Tupelo	72	66	Rain			
Austin	63	50	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	77	64	Clid	Grand Junction	41	23	PCldy	Los Angeles	76	51	Clr	Pendleton	65	45	Cldy	San Antonio	64	52	Cldy	Waco	63	48	Rain			
Baltimore	62	49	Rain	Columbus, Ohio	68	56	Rain	Grand Rapids	65	53	Rain	Louisville	73	60	Rain	Peoria	61	58	Cldy	San Diego	73	54	Clr	San Francisco	68	52	Cldy			
Baton Rouge	81	71	Rain	Concord, N.H.	60	29	PCldy	Great Falls	48	28	Clr	Lubbock	57	31	Clr	Philadelphia	63	48	Cldy	Phoenix	70	47	Clr	Washington, D.C.	63	51	Rain			
Billings	51	27	Clid	Corpus Christi	61	59	Rain	Green Bay	61	54	Clr	Macon	76	58	Cldy	Pittsburgh	66	49	Rain	San Juan, P.R.	85	76	PCldy	Wichita Falls	64	53	PCldy			
Birmingham	77	61	Cldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	66	48	Rain	Greensboro, N.C.	66	52	Rain	Madison	57	51	Cldy	Pocatello	45	29	Cldy	Santa Fe	44	20	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	57	43	PCldy			
Bismarck	43	29	Cldy	Dayton	68	57	Rain	Harrisburg	60	45	Clid	Medford	66	44	Cldy	Portland, Maine	56	33	PCldy	St. Marie	55	48	Rain	Wilmington, Del.	61	45	Clid			
Boise	57	36	Cldy	Daytona Beach	84	71	PCldy	Hartford	59	38	PCldy	Memphis	65	64	Rain	Portland, Ore.	61	49	Cldy	Savannah	79	63	PCldy	Youngstown	65	51	Rain			
Boston	58	43	Clid	Denver	41	19	Cldy	Helena	46	26	Clid	Miami Beach	88	79	Cldy	Providence	58	38	PCldy	Seattle	58	48	Cldy	Wichita	66	37	Clr			
Bridgeport	59	41	Clid	Des Moines	50	44	Clid	Honolulu	87	75	PCldy	Midland-Odessa	60	34	Clr	Pueblo	49	18	PCldy	Raleigh-Durham	69	53	Rain	Shreveport	65	63	Rain			
Brownsburg	63	63	Rain	Detroit	61	52	Rain	Houston	64	59	Rain	Milwaukee	61	55	Clr	Rapid City	41	23	Cldy	Sioux City	46	35	Clr	Sioux Falls	43	34	Cldy			
Buffalo	65	48	Rain	Duluth	49	48	Clid	Huntsville	76	62	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	44	44	Clr	Reno	62	32	Cldy	South Bend	62	57	Rain	Low:Weds,&atYellowstoneLake,Wyo.						
Burlington, Vt.	63	41	Cldy	El Paso	60	33	Clid	Indianapolis	67	60	Rain	Missoula	48	35	Cldy															
Caribou, Maine	51	24	PCldy	Elkins	70	45	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	73	67	Rain	Mobile	84	71	PCldy															

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BY LEO MICHEL AND ROBERT HUNTER

“**T**here is only one thing worse than fighting with allies,” observed Winston Churchill in 1945, “and that is fighting without them.” It’s a truth worth recalling as the Obama administration nears crucial decisions on Afghanistan.

American commentators often short-change allied efforts in Afghanistan, ignoring the facts and insulting our friends. The European allies and Canada provide about half of the 73,000 troops in the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force and they account for nearly 40 percent of Western combat deaths since 2001. . . .

Bravery is not an American monopoly. Most allies report many soldiers volunteering to return to Afghanistan despite the increased violence. A Canadian officer who lost his leg in a roadside bomb attack in 2007 recently returned to Kandahar, in his words, “to do good.” . . .

True, NATO must cope with “caveats” — restrictions imposed by some allies on how and where their forces can be employed in Afghanistan. For example, most of the nearly 4,400 German troops are effectively barred from operating outside the relatively safe north, and Turkey allows its 720-man contingent to operate only in Kabul. . . . France’s military chief properly calls caveats a “poison for multinational operations,” and his British counterpart insists other allies take a larger role in combat.

NATO tightly guards the detailed list of which ISAF contributors impose which caveats, but there are signs of progress. In 2006, Marine Gen. Jim Jones, then NATO’s supreme allied commander, complained that 102 caveats were hobbling the ISAF’s on-scene commanders. Last June, the new commander, U.S. Navy Adm. James Stavridis, told a Senate committee that although 69 caveats remained in force, 18 of the 42 ISAF contributors were “caveat free.” And over the last few months, several European nations that publicly emphasize their peacekeeping role have shifted with little fanfare to more aggressive patrolling. . . .

Despite some wavering, the allies are not rushing for the exits. Over the last few weeks, several pledged to maintain or, in a few cases, increase their boots on the ground. . . . In total, a few thousand more European troops might be added over the next year. Most of these soldiers will serve as mentors for Afghan security forces, reinforcing a “line of operation” that U.S. officials see as key to reversing Taliban momentum and permitting a gradual reduction in NATO’s role.

Numbers don’t tell the whole story. French President Nicolas Sarkozy recently announced, perhaps imprudently, that he “won’t send an additional soldier” to the nearly 3,100-strong French contingent in the ISAF. Still, the French are boosting the combat punch of their 600-man battalion in the volatile eastern region, which is due to be reinforced by larger French units now based in Kabul.

Of course European allies should be encouraged to do more militarily. But excessive American finger-pointing, as NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen warns, could produce the opposite effect because most allied governments are more convinced than their publics of the dangers posed by unchecked violent extremists in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Moreover, military power alone will not suffice. European countries and Canada provide critical civilian expertise and funding for reconstruction and development, bilaterally and through the European Union. . . .

The 28 NATO heads of state and government (of which 21 are EU members) endorsed this “comprehensive approach” to integrating civilian and military efforts at their April 2008 and April 2009 summits. Indeed, the leaked assessment by the ISAF commander, U.S. Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, reads like a playbook for putting that approach into action. Meeting last week in Bratislava, Slovakia, NATO defense ministers offered broad support for McChrystal’s assessment, although they did not discuss in detail the resource impli-

cations of his recommended way forward.

Still, to mobilize international support, Washington must remember a basic rule of alliance management: No foreign political leader can persuade his or her parliament or public to rubber-stamp a strategy “made in the U.S.A.” NATO allies want President Barack Obama to identify a realistic game plan to show progress over the next 12 to 18 months, but they don’t want that strategy decided without their input.

Thus, the administration’s consultations with its allies . . . must be continuous and, above all, credible. This requires a sincere willingness to listen — as Defense Secretary Robert Gates, to his credit, demonstrated in Bratislava — and not just instruct. A tough task, to be sure, but as Churchill warned, the alternative would be far worse.

Leo Michel is senior research fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies.

Robert Hunter is senior adviser at Rand Corp. and former U.S. ambassador to NATO. These are their personal views. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

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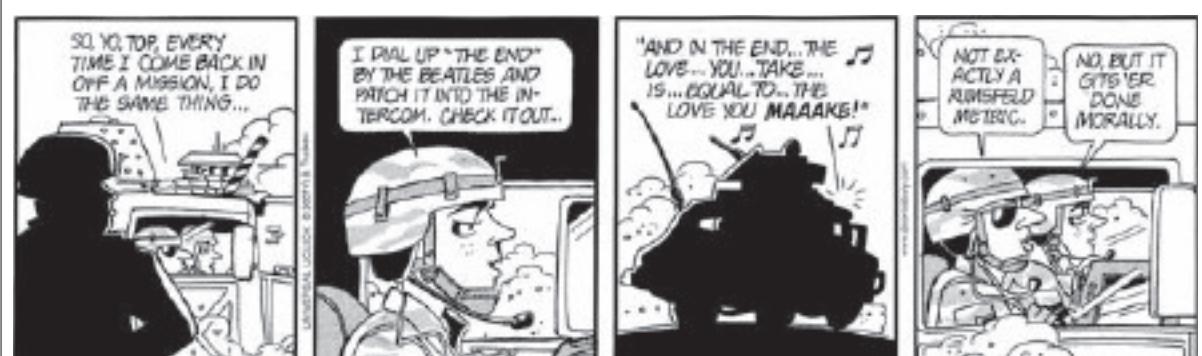
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BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury flashback



Prickly City



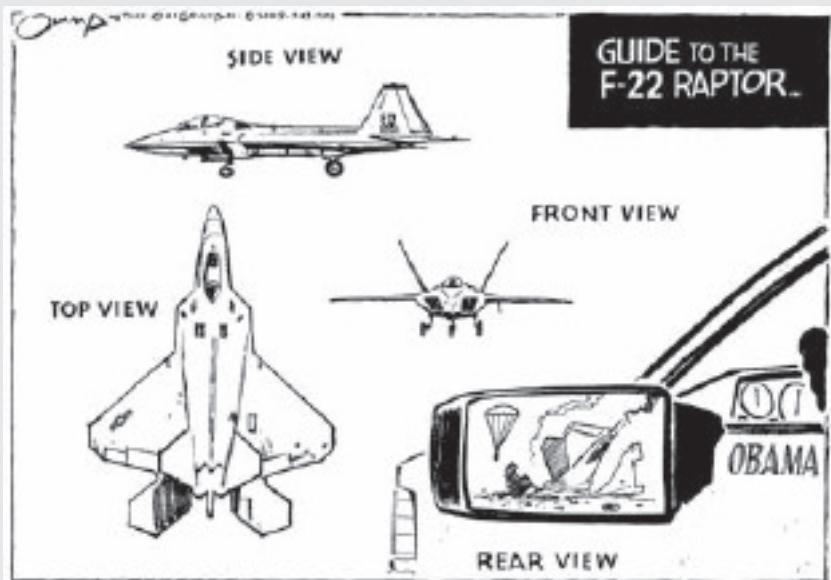
BY SCOTT STANTIS

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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Cheated lottery winner seeks cash

TX AUSTIN — A 67-year-old who claims he was defrauded out of a \$1 million winning lottery ticket said he will sue the Texas Lottery Commission for the money unless it pays him.

Willis Willis "should not be forced to sue to collect his prize," his attorney, Sean Breen, wrote in a letter to the commission.

A former employee of the convenience store where Willis bought his lottery tickets, Pankaj Joshi, is accused of telling Willis that a \$1 million Mega Millions ticket he bought in May was worth only \$2 and cashing it in himself.

Joshi disappeared, possibly back to his native Nepal, after the commission transferred about \$750,000 to his bank account. He is charged with claiming a lottery prize by fraud.

About half the money has been recovered from U.S. banks. Prosecutor Patricia Robertson said some of it will be given to Willis.

Psychiatric patient shot after stabbing doctor

MA BOSTON — A man stabbed a doctor while being treated at a psychiatric office at a Boston medical building and was fatally shot by an off-duty security guard who saw the attack, police said.

The attack took place in the afternoon at a high-rise affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital.

The female doctor, whose name was not released, was in stable condition. Police said the suspect died of the gunshot wounds. He was identified as Jay Carciero, 37, of Reading.

Man pleads guilty to starting wildfire

SC MYRTLE BEACH — A man fined for starting a blaze several days before the most destructive wildfire in South Carolina history has pleaded guilty and will pay \$732.

Marc Torchil admitted to not notifying officials of a burn and allowing a fire on his land to spread to a neighbor's property.

But he and his attorney, Paul Taylor, say he's not responsible for the larger wildfire that destroyed 76 homes and damaged nearly 100 others on South Carolina's Grand Strand in April.

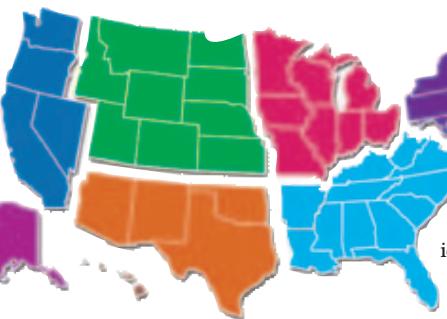
Torchil, who requested a trial, said earlier he's been unfairly blamed.

Torchil said he called Horry County firefighters when his fire got out of control and firefighters thought they had completely put it out.

Motorist drives away with man in windshield

RI PROVIDENCE — Police say a motorist hit someone with his car and then drove more than a mile with him stuck in his windshield.

Christopher Swiridowsky has been charged with leaving the scene of an accident. He is jailed as an alleged bail violator from another case.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police said Swiridowsky drove into a group of three men who were standing on the side of Interstate 95.

Police said one of them became trapped in Swiridowsky's windshield.

Swiridowsky drove away and stopped only because someone was following him, authorities say.

The victim has two broken legs and a broken arm.

Swiridowsky's phone has been disconnected. No defense attorney is listed for him, and a public defender who previously represented him hasn't returned a message.

2 student journalists charged over interviews

VA HARRISONBURG — Two university students are facing trespassing and disorderly conduct charges after they entered a campus dormitory to interview students for a news article.

The Virginia chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists called on James Madison University to drop the charges against Tim Chapman, 21, and Katie Hibson, 19.

It said officials acted "beyond reason."

Hibson is a reporter for The



Up, up and away

Jim Brooks of Ramrod Key, Fla., checks a mylar balloon affixed to "Balloon Dog" Brutus during the Fantasy Fest Pet Masquerade staged in Key West, Fla.

Brooks designed the costume to parody the alleged hoax involving a Colorado couple who reported their son was carried away by a homemade balloon.

Breeze, the twice-weekly campus newspaper, and Chapman is its editor in chief. The university's Office of Judicial Affairs issued the charges after a resident adviser and the Hillside Hall director told them to leave as they interviewed residents about a "Peeping Tom" incident.

Voters to decide on livestock care

OH TOLEDO — Voters will decide whether to create a board overseeing livestock care in a move that could give farmers in rural America a blueprint for battling animal rights groups intent on outlawing cramped cages for chickens and hogs.

Agriculture industry leaders pushed the issue onto the state ballot, hoping to thwart an attempt by animal rights activists who were threatening to force farmers to change how they house livestock.

Voters in California, Florida and Arizona already have approved measures that require more space for confined farm animals. Lawmakers in Colorado, Maine, Michigan and Oregon have adopted similar rules.

Man, 21, sentenced for beating pregnant teen

UT VERNAL — A Utah man was sentenced to up to five years in prison for beating a pregnant girl to try to cause a miscarriage, after police say she paid him to.

Aaron Harrison, 21, had pleaded guilty to second-degree felony attempted murder, which is punishable by up to 15 years in prison. But District Judge A. Lynn Payne instead sentenced him under Utah's anti-abortion statute, saying a charge of third-degree "attempted killing of an unborn child" better fit the facts of the case, The Salt Lake Tribune reported on its Web site.

Harrison, of Naples, also was sentenced in four unrelated cases, three of which involved third-degree felonies. He could serve up to 20 years total.

Prosecutors have said a 17-year-old Uintah County girl paid Harrison \$150 to beat her after her boyfriend threatened a breakup if she didn't get rid of the child.

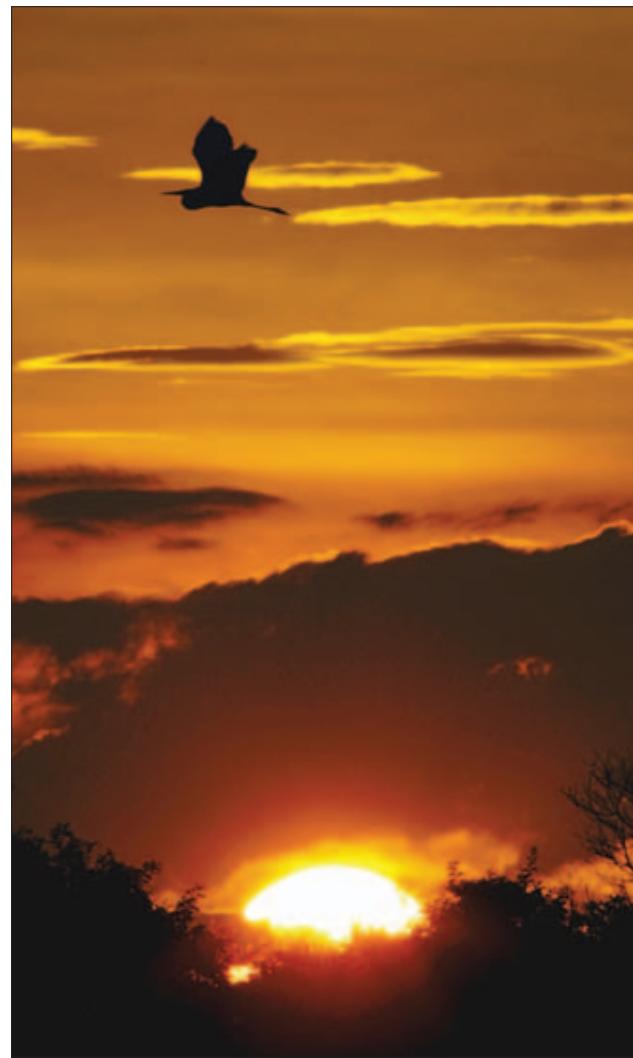
Hours to be reduced at 279 state parks

CA SAN JOSE — More than half of California's 279 state parks will see reduced hours, closed campgrounds, cancelled school field trips and gates padlocked several days a week, under a wave of unprecedented new cuts completed by the state parks department.

The cuts are an alternative to fully closing dozens of parks. Closures will continue until at least June 30.

"People will notice these. We would ask patience and understanding from the public," said Roy Stearns, a spokesman for the state parks department.

"In these really tough budget times, these reductions are better than closing parks. They will save us the money we need to get through the year."



Taking flight

A Great Blue Heron flies South against a Florida sunset at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral.



An ultimate toss

University of Houston freshman Daniel Rojas attempts to throw a frisbee to sophomore Edwin Castaneda while doing a handstand as they play during a break from classes.



Broken bridge

Crews repair parts of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge in San Francisco. The bridge has been closed indefinitely after a rod installed during last month's emergency repairs snapped, causing a traffic nightmare for the 280,000 motorists who cross the landmark span every day.



This is a-maze-ing!

near Harrodsburg, Ky.

Zeydan Jackson, left, and Travis Lawson enjoy their time in a maze at Devine's Corn Maze



All aglow

Cape Lookout lighthouse on Cape Lookout National Seashore is set aglow from the ground as part of a sesquicentennial celebration on Harkers Island, N.C.

Flyover confirms red tide bloom is expanding

TX AUSTIN — State monitoring has confirmed a stretch of red tide bloom extending from southern Mustang Island into Mexico.

Details of a coastal flyover were reported by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The agency said fish kills were seen inside Mansfield Channel and Brazos-Santiago Pass, with the dead fish extending out to approximately one mile offshore.

Biologists found two areas of suspected bloom, at the mouth of the Corpus Christi Inner Harbor and in the Vinson Slough area of Aransas Bay.

Red tide is a toxic algae bloom that can cause temporary breathing trouble, burning eyes and skin irritation in humans.

Hunters turn to the Alleghenies for Bigfoot

WV ELKINS — A team of Bigfoot enthusiasts is hoping to find the legendary creature in the bogs and barrens of a West Virginia wilderness area.

Members of Sasquatch Watch of Virginia went camping in the rugged Allegheny Mountain highlands of the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area with GPS navigators, cameras, voice recorders and plaster of Paris to make casts of huge footprints.

Billy Willard, founder of the group, said they're looking in places where people have reported sightings. He said he has never seen Bigfoot himself.

Bruce Harrington, the group's self-described skeptical member, said he has yet to see convincing proof that the creature exists.

The group took plaster casts of suspicious prints but didn't spot the creature during a recent expedition.

Council shelves creation of 'homeowner' class

HI HONOLULU — A measure to create a "homeowner" class for real property taxation on Oahu has been shelved by the Honolulu City Council.

Creation of the category could have lowered the real estate bills of homeowners.

Councilman Charles Djou led the opposition to the measure. He said creation of the classification could lead to tax hikes for other property owners.

Puck naked: City bans team for 'strip hockey'

ID BOISE — A junior hockey team was banished from a city ice rink after players engaged in "strip hockey" — shedding a piece of uniform every time a practice shot missed its mark.

The city of Boise forbid the Idaho Junior Steelheads team from using the Idaho Ice World rink for four days; one player who shed his underwear briefly was suspended until next week.

Doug Holloway, Boise's recreation superintendent, said rink employees told him players would take something off every time they missed a shot.

An adult whose daughter was on another rink saw the 17- to 20-year-old Steelheads skating in their underwear and complained to a city hot line.

Video: Lawmaker falls during 3rd DUI arrest

WI TOMAH — A squad car video shows a Wisconsin lawmaker falling down during a sobriety test that led to his third arrest in less than a year on suspicion of driving under the influence.

The video released by Tomah police shows Rep. Jeffrey Wood getting pulled over after officers see his Buick Skylark stop in the middle of a road and then slowly swerve across both lanes of traffic.

When Wood is asked to walk a straight line, he stumbles backward into his car before falling down into some grass. An officer helps him up, and Wood is put in handcuffs a short time later.

The video also shows police seizing bottles of prescription drugs from Wood.

He was charged last week with third-offense operating under the influence of an intoxicant and bail jumping. He has apologized for his actions and says he won't seek re-election next year.

Customs agents find drugs in chessboard

PA PHILADELPHIA — A calculated move to inspect a heavy chessboard paid off for customs officers at Philadelphia International Airport.

Federal officials seized more than 2 pounds of hashish and more than half an ounce of marijuana hidden inside the wooden game board. The chessboard was heavier than expected, arousing the suspicion of Customs and Border Protection agents.

Agency spokesman Steve Sapp said the hash was shipped from Tanzania, and officials estimated the drugs' street value at about \$30,000.

Deputy marshal gets 4 years for leaking info

IL CHICAGO — A federal deputy marshal was sentenced to four years in prison for leaking information about the government's star witness at Chicago's biggest organized crime trial in decades.

John T. Ambrose, 42, was convicted in April of stealing government property and violating the secrecy of the Witness Security Program — the network of bodyguards and safe houses used to protect witnesses in mob and terrorism cases.

The information was that admitted hit man Nicholas Calabrese was in federal custody and being kept in a safe house in Chicago. Calabrese went on to become the government's star witness in the FBI's landmark Operation Family Secrets case, in which three mob bosses were sent to federal prison for life and two of their alleged henchmen got long sentences for a murder conspiracy.

Both sides said Ambrose leaked the information to a former Chicago police officer who had gone to prison himself in a corruption case decades ago. Ambrose claims he was merely boasting to former Chicago police officer William Guide that he had been given the high-prestige assignment of guarding the only so-called made member of the Chicago mob ever to change sides.



Two cows eat a pumpkin at Northern Lights Christmas Tree Farm in Pleasant Hill, Ore.

Horoscope

Happy Halloween! The ties between the living and the dead are featured on this All Saints' Day, though often with a light heart — for instance, we may dress up as a zombie or angel for fun and place a fake grave-stone in the yard. The Scorpio sun will also favor more earnest salutations to our ancestors and those friends who have passed before us.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 31)

Your support system will be a source of pride. You take pleasure in creating interesting, exciting and fun relationships. A special connection in November adds mystery and mischief to your life. Your energy is abundant in December — you could win an important contest. Money luck comes in January and July. Aries and Taurus people adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Your work, and perhaps your Halloween costume, will reflect your unique stamp. Be careful not to show your efforts prematurely, though. When you're ready to show your wares, start with the unfailingly supportive people you know.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Those who have a lot stand to lose a lot by joining up with the wrong person. That's why you will be so selective about making alliances. Others are the same. Everyone will have to prove trustworthiness before trust is given.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Brag about your loved ones to their friends and family. The message will surely get back to them and be a source of great pride. It will bring you pleasure to provide this kind of social uplift to someone else.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Money affects how well you get along with someone. If you find that you are not as sweet and kind as a result of a financial imbalance, change the dynamic. How can you become more fiscally independent?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Your

creativity is going strong. This surge in imagination could be due to the recent success of someone in your circle. You can't help but feel a bit competitive. Wanting to win makes you more resourceful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Being around a certain person makes you feel extremely confident. You don't really care what this one thinks, and that's what makes the difference.

What if you didn't care what anyone thought?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have great maturity and remarkable powers of restraint. You don't say what you're thinking when first you think it. You'll reserve your comments, waiting for the most impactive moment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No, you are not imagining things. Someone struts like a peacock whenever you're near. This person wants you to believe in his or her magnificence. All of this effort on your behalf — it's so flattering.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The challenge you face is of your own design — that's what makes it worthwhile. Even so, you might not be sure whether you can do it. The faith of someone close to you will make the difference.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Resist the urge to say too much, especially when you are in the process of building a new relationship. Talking does not equal intimacy. The bonds of love are cemented in comfortable, soulful, musical silence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone is up for the role of "your reason for living." Too bad for this person — you're already cast in the role. A gesture of your autonomy will send the message. You don't do co-dependence!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People will work for your approval. They may ask for your advice as a way of getting you to support and encourage them. It feels good to be well-respected by your peers.

Creators.com

SUDOKU

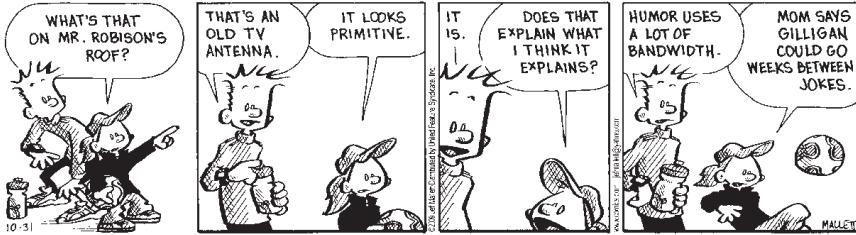
Difficulty: Medium

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution



Frazz



Garfield



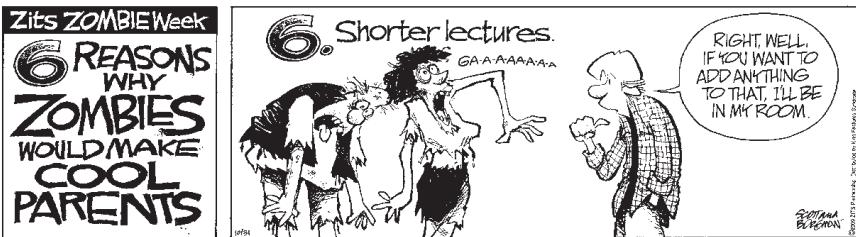
Baby Blues



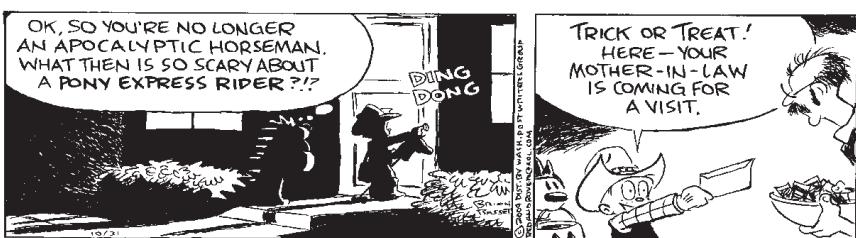
Jump Start



Zits



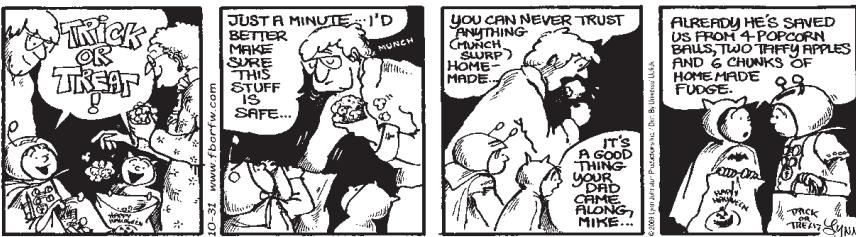
Red & Rover



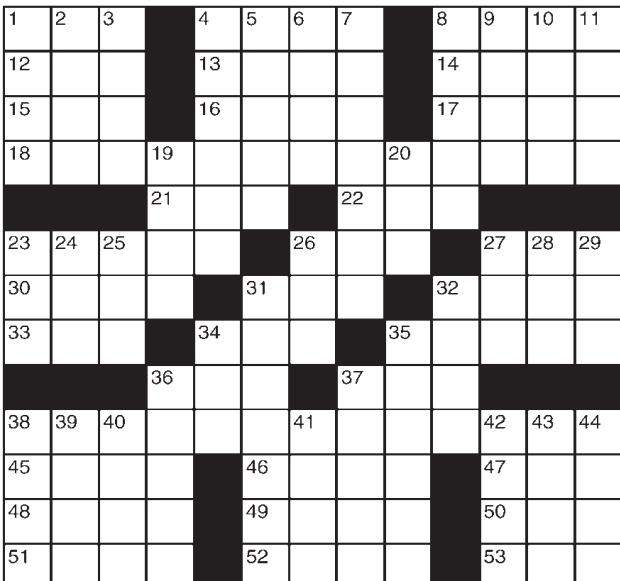
Hagar



Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

50 — generis
 51 Crooned
 52 Chromosome carrier
 53 Stick with a kick
DOWN
 1 One of the gang
 4 Practice pugilism
 8 Frost
 12 William Tell's home
 13 Bygone times
 14 Ceaselessly
 15 Witness
 16 Pallet
 17 "Wozzeck" composer
 18 Halloween party sites?
 21 — the ramparts ..."
 22 Chow down
 23 Despondent atmosphere
 26 Obese
 27 Calendar pp.
 30 Fish story
 31 Peregrinate
 32 Idiosyncrasy
 33 Unruly group
 34 "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" airer
 35 Dental filling
 36 Geologic period
 37 Inseparable
 38 Halloween decorations
 45 Wrinkly citrus
 46 Hodgepodge
 47 A billion years
 48 Compared to
 49 Night light?

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-31

CRYPTOQUIP

I V M L R K C D E G R M C J E

X V G R S R Q E G J W R M J L N V R X

X D Y Y - J V W R , V ' S I E K

K C D ' G R E Q E G J V E Y W E G I N E Y .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT COULD ONE CALL THE PEOPLE WHO RAISED THE WRITER OF "OH! SUSANNA"? FOSTER PARENTS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals R

AFN Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at www.myafn.net

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009

	AFN/prime Atlantic	AFN/family	AFN/movie	AFN/news	AFN/prime Pacific	PENTAGON	AFN/spectrum	AFN/sports	AFN/xtra	
15:00	NBC Nightly News	Funniest Home Videos	(-10) Movie "Friday the 13th" (1980, Horror) Betsy Palmer. Counselors die violently at Camp Crystal Lake.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	How Do I Look?	SportsCenter	(2:00) Sports	
15:30	World News-Gibson	Planet's Funniest Animals	(3:50) Pokémon	Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	Army Newswatch	Top Gear	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist	
16:00	Sesame Street	(-40) Zatch Bell	(-40) "Entertainers"	Tavis Smiley	EXchange on Air	King of the Hill				X Play
16:30			Nightly Business Report		Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	That '70s Show			Yo Momma
17:00	The View	(-05) Movie "Twiches" (2005, Fantasy) Tia Mowry, Tamera Mowry. Reunited twins use magic against evil.	Nightline	Jeopardy!	Air Force Football	Top Gear				The Simpsons
17:30			Hollywood Dailies	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Today's Air Force	Daily Show Jon Stewart			Family Guy
18:00	Dr. Phil		Entertainment Tonight		Around the Services	All Hands TV	The Colbert Report			World Series of Poker
18:30			Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Survivor: Samoa	Briefing Encore	Scrubs "My Finale"			
19:00	The Dr. Oz Show	Unfabulous	(-09) Movie "Beowulf" (2007, Adventure) Voices of Ray Winstone. Animated. A warrior battles a ferocious demon.	Today	Fit For Duty	Battleground	New Adv.-Old Christine			
19:30		True Jackson, VP Jungle.			CSI: Miami "Chip/Tuck"	Recon Revisited	Chuck Chuck must save Elle's life.			
20:00	Access Hollywood	Sonny With a Chance (N)	Ron Saris is alive.		The Jay Leno Show	Around the Services	Brothers & Sisters "Mexico"			World Series of Poker
20:30	The King of Queens	Aaron Stone				Pacific Report	Seinfeld "The Cartoon"		2009 Hip Hop Honors	
21:00	The Young and the Restless	Wildfire Kris clashes with a legendary trainer.			America's Newsroom	Briefing Encore	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien			
21:30						The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Friends			
22:00	General Hospital	Heroes "Cautionary Tales"				Today's Air Force	Today Show- Jon Stewart			
22:30						Late Show-Letterman	Downrange			
23:00	Days of our Lives	7th Heaven "Lost"					The Colbert Report		Attack of the Show!	
23:30										

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009

00:00	Oprah Winfrey	Unfabulous	(10:56) Movie "The Amityville Horror" (1979) James Brolin, True Jackson, VP Jungle.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	Recon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
00:30					The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty			
1:00	Wheel of Fortune	Sonny With a Chance	(-09) Movie "The Exorcist" (1973, Horror) Ellen Burstyn, Linda Blair, Max von Sydow. Jesuits try to rescue a possessed girl.	Happening Now	The Grill Sergeants	Scrubs			
1:30	Jeopardy!	Aaron Stone			Judge Judy	Around the Services	My Name Is Earl		
2:00	Headline News	Wildfire	Taking Off Kris clashes with a legendary trainer.	Newsroom	House "It's a Wonderful Lie"	Downrange	One Tree Hill "Pictures of You"		
2:30	ATS/AFN Report				MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	EXchange on Air	Third Watch "He Said/She Said"	
3:00	Survivor: Samoa	Heroes "Cautionary Tales"			Studio B With Shepard Smith	State Dept Briefing	State Dept Briefing	Sports	World Series of Poker
3:30					The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Good Morning America	This Week in the Pentagon	Seinfeld "The Cartoon"	
4:00	CSI: Miami "Chip/Tuck"	7th Heaven "Lost"	(-09) Movie "The Grudge" (2004, Horror) Sarah Michelle Gellar, Jason Behr, William Mapother.	Glenn Beck	Good Morning America	National Guard News	Total Body Sculpt With Gilad	College Football Live	World Series of Poker
4:30	Ron Saris is alive.				Around the Services	Downrange	Jim Rome Is Burning		2009 Hip Hop Honors
5:00	The Jay Leno Show	Barney & Friends			Go, Diego, Go!	Easy Entertaining	Easy Entertaining		
5:30	Oobi				Dragon	Around the Services	Ace of Cakes		
6:00	Headline News	Sesame Street			Briefing Encore	Ultimate Goals	Pardon the Interruption		
6:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Go, Diego, Go!			NBC Nightly News	Recon	SportsCenter		
7:00	Late Show With David Letterman	Clifford's Puppy Days			Ribert & Robert's	Downrange			Attack of the Show!
7:30	Charlie & Lola				World News-Gibson	Maya & Miguel	Clean House		
8:00	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Mickey Mouse Clubhouse			CBS Evening News	Danny Phantom			
8:30					The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Sports			
9:00	Judge Judy	Movie "Pooch's Hallowump Halloween Movie" (2005) Voices of Kyle Stanger, Nikita Hopkins.			Cannady	Recon Revisited	MythBusters Grenade blast; Diet Coke and Mentos.		
9:30	House "It's a Wonderful Lie"	Movie "Casper's Scare School"				State Dept Briefing	State Dept Briefing		
10:00		(2006, Adventure) Jim Belushi, Bob Saget, Phyllis Diller.				Fit For Duty	Make 'em Laugh: The Funny Business of America		
10:30						FNG Useful benefits.	FNG Useful benefits.		
11:00	Oprah Winfrey					Fit For Duty	Dirty Jobs Plugging an abandoned mine shaft.		
11:30									
12:00	Dr. Phil	Teen Kids News							
12:30		Boo to You Pooh							
13:00	CBS Evening News	Bugs Bunny's How-O-Ween							
13:30	ESPNEWS	Scary Godmother Halloween Spooktakular							
14:00	NBC Nightly News								
14:30	World News-Gibson	Scary Godmother: The Revenge of Jimmy							
15:00	Dragon								
15:30	Ribert & Robert's	The Fairly OddParents							
16:00	Maya & Miguel	Adventures of Ichabod							
16:30	Danny Phantom								
17:00	Naruto	What's New Scooby-Doo?							
17:30	Instant Star "Us and Them"	Movie "The Sixth Sense" (1999) Bruce Willis, Haley Joel Osment. Spirits with unresolved problems appear to a boy.							
18:00	Entertainment Studios.com	Movie "Hocus Pocus" (1993, Comedy) Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker.							
18:30	Criss Angel Mindfreak								
19:00	Ax Men	Movie "Twiches Too" (2007, Mystery) Tia Mowry, Tamera Mowry.							
19:30									
20:00	Access Hollywood	(-25) Movie "Casper" (1995) Christina Ricci. Teen befriends Casper, the friendly ghost.							
20:30									
21:00	Deadliest Catch	Movie "The Messengers" (2007, Horror) Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott.							
21:30	Harsh winter weather.	(-45) Movie "Army of Darkness" (1992, Fantasy) Bruce Campbell, Embeth Davidtz.							
22:00	Law & Order: "Executioner"	(-35) Halloweentown High							
22:30	A doctor is found murdered.								
23:00	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit								
23:30	"Liberties"								

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009

00:00	CSI: NY "The Triangle"	(11:35) Movie "Halloweentown High" (2004, Fantasy)	(10:45) Army of Darkness	Forbes on FOX	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Unorthodox"	FNG Useful benefits.	The Simpsons	(10:00) Sports	Top 20 Countdown
00:30			Movie "The Craft" (1996, Horror) Robin Tunney, Fairuza Balk. Teenage witches wreak havoc at their high school.	Cashin' In	Bones "Bodies in the Book"	Fit For Duty	Keeping Up-Kardashians		
1:00	Sports	Scary Godmother Halloween Spooktakular	(-20) Movie "Disturbia"	Newsroom	Around the Services	Recon	The Simpsons		
1:30			(2007, Suspense) Shia LaBeouf, David Morse. A troubled youth suspects his neighbor is a serial killer.	Your Money	Around the Services	Recon Revisited	The Simpsons		
2:00		Scary Godmother: The Revenge of Jimmy	Movie "Disturbia"	This Week in the Pentagon	House "Euphoria" (Part 1 of 2)	Army Newswatch	The Simpsons		
2:30		The Fairly OddParents	(-20) Movie "Disturbia"	Wall Street Journal Report	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Liberties"	ESPNNEWS	The Simpsons		
3:00		Adventures of Ichabod	(2007) Shia LaBeouf, David Morse. A troubled youth suspects his neighbor is a serial killer.	Glenn Beck	CSI: NY "The Triangle"	First Air Force Now	The Simpsons		
3:30		What's New Scooby-Doo?	(-20) Movie "The Messengers" (2007, Horror) Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott.	Newsroom	Bulls and Bears	Battleground	Austin City Limits "Kings of Leon; Roxy Erickson"		
4:00					Til Death	First Air Force Now	FNG Useful benefits.		
4:30					The Class "Pilot"	Judging Amy "Darkness for Light"	Namaste Yoga		
5:00	Sports	Barney & Friends					The Benning Report	Total Body Sculpt With Gilad	
5:30		Oobi							

News

Sports

Weather

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

Enter city or zip code:

Location | Default Location | [C° | F°]

Military News

Sports

Weather

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Club/Parties	340	Furniture	510	Furniture	511	Furniture/Appliances	511	Household Items	560	Jobs Offered	630	Outdoor Living	775	Sporting Goods	980																									
SHINJUKU WORLD FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL PARTY, Nov 7 Sat, 6:30-8:50pm, SHINJUKU TOKYO LOOSE. The full-scale International Party in Shinjuku. Meet 200 people, 20 kinds of free cocktails. Free Snacks with Sandwiches. Male 3500 Yen Female 3000 Yen http://www.world-friend.com 080-2001-0512 partygoover.co.jp		Yokota, Japan - Must go ASAP. Entertainment center/computer desk set must sell before move. I am selling this as a set I designed these, and had them custom made. They are absolutely beautiful and well built. Entertainment center & matching computer desk has lots of great features. I ask that you call to see in person as I do not have pictures. Computer desk has glass top to protect wood easy to clean-built in filing cabinet w/ lock, removable trays, and much more. Entertainment center is gorgeous, easy gliding drawers, built in slots for DVDs to be hidden, pull-out drawers, lights, much more. Both are really nice. Selling as set immediately solid rosewood \$3500 for both-pain a lot more than this. Please call Angela 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Kitchen aid must sell before big move. I kept everything very clean. I kept boxes, etc. white color Kitchen aid Set includes: 5 qt. Artesian Mixer w/ all accessories it came with, Kitchen aid ice cream attachment, set, Kitchen aid 56 oz. Prolinecarbonate Pitcher, 5 speed blender w/ electronic mixing sensor, and many more great features. Everything looks brand new. I took really good care of it All Paid over \$500 for everything, asking \$340 for everything as a set. Firm on price. Please leave message if not home. 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Pottery Barn Curtain sets must sell immediately before move. Clean, I kept original bags. I'm even including drapery hooks. You have 2 hanging options for the curtains, either hang them on a curtain rod, OR, use the drapery hooks I am including and put in sliders above windows. These are natural colors, neutral color. No print will match any decor. I'm selling as a set: 2 curtain panels-96" length, and 2 curtain panels-63" in length. For both curtains and 63", am asking \$60. I am also going to include, for FREE, 2 matching soft Throw Blankets! Please call 916-473-4488	U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Japan Camp Zama, Japan		Yokota, Japan - Paving stone-bricks for extending your porch or making a walkway. Square 1ft x1ft Gray color About 15 available. I also have about 20 nice red patterned ones for \$1 each. Ready for pick-up in West Side FREE! Please call 080-3515-2218 or email drewbarnett@gmail.com	Yokota, Japan - Callaway Big Bertha, Titanium 454 Driver. The new Big Bertha Titanium 454 Driver has a bigger sweet spot to give you explosive energy and forgiveness to send your shots sailing straight and far. The fairways are big and play big - more forgiveness, more confidence, and more bragging-rights distance. Maximized weighting along the back ribbon of the club makes it ultra-resistant to twisting and damage, accurate off the tee, 9 degree loft W/ stiff graphite shaft. Head cover included. Retails for \$120.00. Playing price is \$100.00. Never been hit.	TIF SPECIAL HALLOWEEN INTERNATIONAL PARTY SHIBUYA, Oct 31, Sat, 7:00-9:30pm, Ebisu 7. Held by Japan's biggest International Friendship site. Meet 300 people. Beer, Cocktails and Soft drinks are also provided! 3000 Yen http://www.tokyo-party.com Call 080-2001-0512 party@goover.co.jp																															
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Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360	Computers	360																									
Yokota, Japan - NEW Med Bridge 1.3 HDMI cable. High speed HDMI cable. 25 feet long, gold plated connectors, supports up to 1080p. Great quality cable. Brand new, never used. It breaks, it's not going anywhere. The cheapest HDMI cable at the exchange is \$35 and not nearly as long as 25 feet. Asking \$40 please call Darrin 6173913655		Yokota, Japan - Large Japanese Karji Frame. They are ichigio-ichi only once in the life) this is good for display on while wall. Size: 4' x 1.5'. Price: \$100.00 or call 090-9825-3905 (Soft Bank User can text me with the number). Asking \$35 OBO Please call 090-9825-3805 or e-mail yokatajapan73@hotmail.com	Yokohama/Negishi - Coby 20 watts CD stereo system. Still in box - never used. Will accept reasonable offer. Leaving Japan on the 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. Email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil or jimguest@yahoo.com	Yokohama/Negishi - Coby 20 watts CD stereo system. Still in box - never used. Will accept reasonable offer. Leaving Japan on the 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. Email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil or jimguest@yahoo.com	Yokohama/Negishi - Coby 20 watts CD stereo system. Still in box - never used. Will accept reasonable offer. Leaving Japan on the 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. Email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil or jimguest@yahoo.com	Physical Therapist, Intermittent (240 hours)	Provides physical therapy service in the areas of physical disabilities and neuromuscular dysfunctions in patients ranging from adolescence to the very elderly.	Yokota, Japan - Paving stone-bricks for extending your porch or making a walkway. Square 1ft x1ft Gray color About 15 available. I also have about 20 nice red patterned ones for \$1 each. Ready for pick-up in West Side FREE! Please call 080-3515-2218 or email drewbarnett@gmail.com																																
Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380	Crafts/Hobbies	380																									
Yokota, Japan - Wood Burning Pen works great on all types of wood really easy to use. Warning! It takes a little while to cool down after you're done using it. Please supervise children. Asking \$20 Please Sarah 903-386-0550		Yokota, Japan - Longaberger baskets - All these baskets are in exc. condition must sell to prepare for move. Some are no longer available. Warm Brown Medium: Basket w/ FLAX liner & Protector. Paid over \$100 Asking \$50 Warm Brown Large Desktop Basket w/ FLAX liner, Protector w/ woodcraft dividers. Paid over \$150 Asking \$75 Warm Brown Basket w/ FLAX liner, Protector, Woodcraft Lid. Paid over \$135 Asking \$65 Warm Brown-Spring Basket w/ FLAX liner, 4 way divider protector, open protector. Paid over \$110 Asking \$60 Warm Brown-Large Rectangle Storage Basket, FLAX liner, Protector w/ woodcraft dividers, Lid. Paid over \$330 Asking \$165 Please leave message 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Longaberger baskets - All these baskets are in exc. condition must sell to prepare for move. Some are no longer available. Warm Brown Medium: Basket w/ FLAX liner & Protector. Paid over \$100 Asking \$50 Warm Brown Large Desktop Basket w/ FLAX liner, Protector w/ woodcraft dividers. Paid over \$150 Asking \$75 Warm Brown Basket w/ FLAX liner, Protector, Woodcraft Lid. Paid over \$135 Asking \$65 Warm Brown-Spring Basket w/ FLAX liner, 4 way divider protector, open protector. Paid over \$110 Asking \$60 Warm Brown-Large Rectangle Storage Basket, FLAX liner, Protector w/ woodcraft dividers, Lid. Paid over \$330 Asking \$165 Please leave message 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - 8 DS games with free travel case. Professor Layton and the curious village Contra 4 Yoshi Island, DS Kirby Super Star, Yoshi's Island, DS Kirby Super Star Ultra, DS Final Fantasy tactics A2 Final Fantasy 4 Grand theft auto China town wars Bonus Item: travel case with plenty of slots for games! Final price asking \$100 Please call 080-4196-3603 or email friskofan01@hotmail.com	Yokota, Japan - 8 DS games with free travel case. Professor Layton and the curious village Contra 4 Yoshi Island, DS Kirby Super Star, Yoshi's Island, DS Kirby Super Star Ultra, DS Final Fantasy tactics A2 Final Fantasy 4 Grand theft auto China town wars Bonus Item: travel case with plenty of slots for games! Final price asking \$100 Please call 080-4196-3603 or email friskofan01@hotmail.com	Yokota, Japan - X-Box w/games Original in good working condition. All parts in box plus additional controller. Games included in price include: Counter Strike, Tony Hawk's Underground, Medal of Honor, Frontline Star Wars/Tetris, Combo T.C., Splinter Cell, Pandora's Box, Prince of Persia, Samurais, Time Star Wars, KOTOR, Star Wars: Battlefront 2, Hit man 2, Madden NFL 06. All games work and system operates great. Asking price is \$50 OBO for all. Please e-mail elektrikboogaloo@yahoo.com	Yokota, Japan - X-Box w/games Original in good working condition. All parts in box plus additional controller. Games included in price include: Counter Strike, Tony Hawk's Underground, Medal of Honor, Frontline Star Wars/Tetris, Combo T.C., Splinter Cell, Pandora's Box, Prince of Persia, Samurais, Time Star Wars, KOTOR, Star Wars: Battlefront 2, Hit man 2, Madden NFL 06. All games work and system operates great. Asking price is \$50 OBO for all. Please e-mail elektrikboogaloo@yahoo.com	Yokota, Japan - Full bread King Charles spaniel for sale no longer. Very good with kids all shots are up to date 1 1/2 years old. Call for more info. Asking for \$100.00 or best offer please call 4257424528 or email noriyana31@yahoo.com Nara Lower	Yokota, Japan - Full bread King Charles spaniel for sale no longer. Very good with kids all shots are up to date 1 1/2 years old. Call for more info. Asking for \$100.00 or best offer please call 4257424528 or email noriyana31@yahoo.com Nara Lower	Yokota, Japan - Pro-Form Elliptical Trainer Excellent condition, built in CD player, grip pulse sensor and more. Asking \$450. Please call Theresa 425-274-4350	Yokota, Japan - Pro-Form Elliptical Trainer Excellent condition, built in CD player, grip pulse sensor and more. Asking \$450. Please call Theresa 425-274-4350	Yokota, Japan - Taylor Made Fairway Woods and Hybrids 2009 Taylor Made R9 #3 #5 Fairway Woods with stiff flex shaft and premium grip. Rarely used. \$100.00 each 2009 Taylor Made Hybrid #2, #3, 5 with stiff flex shaft \$100.00 each. Call 617-778-9989 or e-mail song.rhime@yokota.a.f.mil	Yokota, Japan - Taylor Made Fairway Woods and Hybrids 2009 Taylor Made R9 #3 #5 Fairway Woods with stiff flex shaft and premium grip. Rarely used. \$100.00 each 2009 Taylor Made Hybrid #2, #3, 5 with stiff flex shaft \$100.00 each. Call 617-778-9989 or e-mail song.rhime@yokota.a.f.mil																											
Found	490	Found	490	Found	490	Found	490	Found	490	Found	490	Found	490	Found	490																									
Sagamihara - Found Gameboy DS items at the SHA Commissionary parking lot on Oct 11th, Please e-mail a t mommag4boys@yahoo.com to send description of items		Furniture	511	Furniture	511	Furniture	511	Furniture	511	Furniture	511	Furniture	511	Furniture	511																									
Atsugi - Twin captains bed w/ head, only 1 year old, asking \$500.00, 5 pc dining set w/ Lazy Susan cherry color, also 1 year old, sale \$250 obo. Couch & loveseat great condition, tan color, both \$100. Call 264-7869 or 080-4050-3938		Yokota, Japan - Braun Professional set must sell ASAP before move. It's all really nice. I kept the org. box, everything it came with. Some of the accessories we never used. We have had this for several years now, & love it, but we have to clear space. This is a Braun professional hair blower, set. Must have for any kitchen w/ out taking up much space. Adjust your speed & power. Includes ice crushing, whisk, chopper, and many more attachments great for making baby food, chopping fruits/veggies, making drinks, and more. Large set asking \$50 for set. Please leave message if not home. 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Must sell ASAP - 3 pc. Suitcase set must sell ASAP before move. I am selling this as we only used one of the suitcases 1 time. The other 2 are brand new great for small trips, TDY's, etc. the small - medium size one is expandable w/ removable insert inside lots of storage. The other one is also on wheels, great for laptop, travel documents, etc. Comes with travel bag, shoulder bag, while 3 piece set is priced to sell immediately: \$50 for whole set. Please leave message if not home. P.S. I also have several DVD movies for the whole family to enjoy. Each DVD movie is only \$3.50 all clean. Must sell ASAP. Please call 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Sony 40 Inch flat screen monitor. I have a Sony 40 inch flat screen monitor that I want to get rid of. The part number is FW-40LX2F this is a Wide screen monitor. It is about 1 year old but in perfect condition. It has the external side speakers mounted on it. It can be used as a TV if you have a tuner or something else like a DVD player or a VCR to route the signal. It has a remote no remote for it as it was used as a wall mount. Asking \$700.00 or best offer. Give me a shout if you're interested and I can send you photos or you can come by take a look at it. This is a professional use monitor of the highest grade. Asking call 090-6529-1413 or email james.gardner08@yahoo.com	Yokota, Japan - BABYSITTER NEEDED Wed. Fri. 2-3 hr block of time on one to three days. The part time is FW-40LX2F this is a Wide screen monitor. It is about 1 year old but in perfect condition. It has the external side speakers mounted on it. It can be used as a TV if you have a tuner or something else like a DVD player or a VCR to route the signal. It has a remote no remote for it as it was used as a wall mount. Asking \$700.00 or best offer. Give me a shout if you're interested and I can send you photos or you can come by take a look at it. This is a professional use monitor of the highest grade. Asking call 090-6529-1413 or email james.gardner08@yahoo.com	Yokota - BABYSITTER NEEDED Wed. Fri. 2-3 hr block of time on one to three days. 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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Pro football

Friday

AFN-Sports, 4:30 p.m.—MLS playoffs: Houston at Seattle (did).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—MLB playoffs: World Series, Philadelphia at N.Y. Yankees, Game 2 (did).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—MLB playoffs: World Series, Philadelphia at N.Y. Yankees, Game 2 (did).
AFN-Pacific, 9 a.m.—College football: West Virginia at South Florida.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA: Chicago at Boston.
AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.—NHL: N.Y. Rangers at Minnesota.

AFN-Sports, 11:30 a.m.—NBA: Dallas at L.A. Lakers.
AFN-Xtra, 11:30 a.m.—NHL: Colorado at San Jose.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—College football: West Virginia at South Florida (did).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—NBA: Dallas at L.A. Lakers (did).

Sunday

AFN-Atlantic, 1 a.m.—College football: Iowa at Indiana.

AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.—College football: Mississippi at Auburn.

AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m.—College football: Cincinnati at Syracuse.

AFN-Atlantic, 4:30 a.m.—College football: Texas at Texas Tech.

AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.—College football: Georgia vs. Florida at Jacksonville, Fla.

AFN-Xtra, 4:30 a.m.—College football: Miami, Fla. at Wake Forest.

AFN-Sports, 8:30 a.m.—MLB playoffs: World Series, N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia, Game 3.

AFN-Atlantic, 9 a.m.—College football: Texas at Oklahoma State.

AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.—College football: Southern California at Oregon.

AFN-Xtra, 12:30 p.m.—NBA: Dallas at L.A. Clippers (joined in progress).

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—College football: Southern California at Oregon (did).

AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.—College football: South Carolina at Tennessee (did).

AFN-Xtra, 8 p.m.—Boxing: Joseph Agbeko vs. Yonny Perez for Agbeko's IBF bantamweight title at Las Vegas (did).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—MLB playoffs: World Series, N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia, Game 3 (did).

AFN-Xtra, 11 p.m.—College football: Texas at Oklahoma State (did).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (did) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

College basketball

USA Today/ESPN preseason Top 25

The top 25 teams in the USA Today-ESPN men's college basketball pre-season poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, 2008-09 records, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and final 2008-09 ranking:

Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Kansas (27)	27-8	770 10
2. Michigan State (30)	31-7	732 2
3. Texas	23-12	676 23
4. North Carolina (1)	34-4	653 1
5. Kentucky	23-12	635 2
6. Villanova	30-8	620 4
7. Purdue	27-10	586 14
8. Duke	30-7	528 11
9. West Virginia	23-12	501 5
10. Butler	26-6	408 25
11. Tennessee	21-13	406 -
12. California	22-11	370 -
13. Washington	26-9	364 16
14. Connecticut	31-5	361 3
15. Michigan	21-14	279 -
16. Oklahoma	30-6	244 7
17. Ohio State	22-11	241 -
18. Minnesota	22-11	151 -
19. Mississippi St.	23-13	149 -
20. Georgia Tech	12-19	136 -
21. Georgetown	16-15	134 -
22. Dayton	27-8	130 -
23. Louisville	31-6	123 5
24. Clemson	23-9	114 -
25. Syracuse	28-10	111 12

Others receiving votes: Maryland 100; Illinois 83; Siena 72; UCLA 59; Vanderbilt 38; Oklahoma State 29; Missouri 28; Xavier 25; Gonzaga 24; Notre Dame 22; Southern California 22; Pittsburgh 19; Tulsa 17; Brigham Young 16; Kansas State 16; Florida State 15; Florida 13; Wake Forest 13; San Diego State 8; Creighton 7; Boston College 4; Texas A&M 4; Cornell 3; Memphis 3; Mississippi 3; Southern Illinois 3; Utah State 3; UNLV 2; Northern Iowa 1; South Carolina 1.

AP sportlight

Oct. 31

1948 — Sammy Baugh of Washington passes for 446 yards and four TDs and Dan Sandifer has four interceptions including two for touchdowns as the Redskins beat the Boston Yanks 56-21.

studies (right knee). **BEARS**: OUT: LB Pisa Tinoisoma (knee). DNP: DE Adewale Ogunleye (ankle), DT Matt Toews (calf), LIMITED: LB Lance Briggs (shoulder), DT Israel Idonije (knee), S Danieal Manning (foot), RB Adrian Peterson (knee). FULL: DT Tommie Harris (knee).

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS at **DALLAS COWBOYS**: OUT: LB Lofa Tatupu (pectoral), DNP: QB Matt Hasselbeck (rib), T Sean Locklear (ankle), S C.J. Wallace (hamstring). LIMITED: DE Julius Jones (not injury related), RB Patrick Kerney (groin). FULL: G Rob Sims (ankle).

COWBOYS: DNP: RB Deon Anderson (illness), QB Alton Rossum (hamstring). FULL: RB Marion Barber (thumb), S Gerald Sensabaugh (thumb), LB DeMarcus Ware (foot).

DETROIT LIONS at **ST. LOUIS RAMS**:

RAMS: DNP: DE C.J. Ah Yee (ankle), G John Greco (not injury related), G Rich Incognito (foot). LIMITED: DE James Hall (groin), CB Justin King (groin). FULL: WR Ruell Martin (hamstring).

LIONS: DNP: LB Zack Follett (illness), DE Jason Hunter (ankle), WR Calvin Johnson (knee), RB Terrell Smith (illness). LIMITED: RB Jerome Felton (ankle), TE Casey FitzSimmons (ear), DT Sammie Hill (ankle), DT Grady Jackson (knee), DE Turk McBride (head), S K.O. Simpson (hamstring), QB Matthew Stafford (knee). FULL: T Gode Cherilus (shoulder), LB Jordan Dizon (foot), LB Ernie Sims (shoulder), DE Wayne White (hamstring).

MINNESOTA VIKINGS at **GREEN BAY PACKERS** — **VIKINGS**: DNP: WR Bernard Berrian (hamstring), LB E.J. Henderson (knee), DT Jimmy Kennedy (not injury related), CB Antoine Winfield (foot). LIMITED: LB Jasper Brinkley (hamstring), QB Brett Favre (hip), LB Ben Leber (calf), CB Karl Payrah (quadriceps), WR Darius Reynaud (hamstring), RB Naufahu Tahi (knee). **PACKERS**: OUT: RB Korey Hall (calf), WR Jordy Nelson (knee). DNP: TE Jermichael Finley (knee), S Derrick Martin (hamstring), C Jason Spitz (back), C Scott Wells (not injury related). LIMITED: T Chad Clifton (ankle), LB Clay Matthews (jaw), QB Aaron Rodgers (foot), T Mark Tauscher (knee), CB Charles Woodson (hip), DE Jarius Wynn (hamstring).

MIAMI DOLPHINS at **NEW YORK JETS**:

DOLPHINS: DNP: LB Channing Crowder (shoulder). LIMITED: DT Jason Ferguson (foot). FULL: RB Ricky Williams (thumb).

JETS: DNP: WB David Clowney (ankle), G Brandon Moore (foot), CB Lito Shepard (quadricep). LIMITED: WR Jerricho Cotchery (hamstring), DE Shaun Ellis (knee), LB Bart Scott (knee), WR Brad Smith (quadricep), T Damien Woody (foot). FULL: LB David Harris (wrist), CB Donald Strickland (ankle), LB Bryan Thomas (wrist).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS at **TENNESSEE TITANS** — **JAGUARS**: DNP: CB Rashean Mathis (finger), CB Brian Witherspoon (hamstring). LIMITED: WR Torry Holt (not injury related), T Maurice Williams (knee). **TITANS**: DNP: CB Cortland Finnegan (hamstring), T Mike Otto (knee). LIMITED: CB Nick Harper (forearm), WR Mark Jones (hamstring), RB Javon Ringer (back).

CAROLINA PANTHERS at **ARIZONA CARDINALS** — **PANTHERS**: DNP: S Charles Godfrey (ankle), LB Landon Johnson (shoulder), WR Muhsin Muhammad (knee), TE Dante Rosario (knee), RB Jonathan Stewart (Achilles). LIMITED: LB Thomas Davis (hamstring). FULL: RB Brad Hoover (back), K Rhys Lloyd (right ankle). **CARDINALS**: DNP: DE Kenny Willebeek (knee), S Antrel Rolle (foot), TE Stephen Spach (ankle). LIMITED: WR Anthony Boldin (ankle), WR Steve Breaston (knee). FULL: CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (ankle), G Reggie Wells (thumb).

NEW YORK GIANTS at **PHILADELPHIA EAGLES** — **GIANTS**: DNP: LB Michael Boley (knee), RB Ahmad Bradshaw (ankle, foot), DT Chris Canty (calf), LB Antonio Pierce (hamstring), CB Aaron Ross (hamstring). LIMITED: T. Karem McKenzie (groin). **EAGLES**: OUT: DE Victor Abiamiri (knee), WR Kevin Curtis (knee), LB Omar Gaither (foot). DNP: CB Macho Harris (ankle), DE Darren Howard (ankle, calf), WR DeSean Jackson (foot), CB Dimitri Patterson (quadricep, hand), RB Brian Westbrook (concussion, knee). FULL: C. Nick Cole (knee), G Todd Herremans (foot), G Max Jean-Gilles (shoulder), LB Akeem Jordan (hip), WR Jeremy Maclin (foot), T Jason Peters (ankle, knee).

Deals

Tennis

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL
NATIONAL LEAGUE
FLORIDA MARLINS—Named Randy St. Claire pitching coach.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Named Dan Micala vice president, partnership solutions.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ORLANDO MAGIC—Waived F Linton Johnson III.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Exercised the option on G George Hill's contract for next season.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed TE Jason Pocisk to the practice squad. Released defensive tackle Rashaad Duncan from the practice squad.

CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed WR Darnell Jenkins to the practice squad. Released RB Cedric Peerman from the practice squad.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Suspended RB Larry Johnson for one game for conduct detrimental to the club.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Signed CB Tarell Brown to a three-year contract extension and OT Chris Patrick. Signed TE Carson Butler to the practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Placed OT Walter Jones on injured reserve.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed FB Chris Pressley from Cincinnati's practice squad. Signed DE Maurice Evans to the practice squad.

Canadian Football League
CFL—Fined Toronto coach Bart Anderson \$1,000 and Toronto LB Zeke Moreno an undisclosed amount for publicly disparaging officiating.

GOLF
LPGA TOUR—Named Michael Whan commissioner.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
ANAHEIM DUCKS—Signed LW Kyle Calder to a one-year contract. Assigned LW Bobby Bolt to Muskegon (IHL).

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Assigned D Mathieu Roy to Syracuse (AHL).

VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled G Cory Schneider from Manitoba (AHL).

WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Assigned LW Alexandre Giroux to Hershey (AHL).

SOCCER
Women's Professional Soccer
SKY BLUE FC—Signed D Ashleigh Gunning.

COLLEGE
ARMY—Named Nadia Staubli assistant swimming and diving coach.

EAST CAROLINA—Named John Ashburn director of men's basketball operations.

LA SALLE—Named Natasha Fuchs assistant lacrosse coach.

MICHIGAN—Dismissed CB Boubacar Cissoko from the football team for a violation of team rules.

STANFORD—Suspended sophomore G Jeremy Green indefinitely from the basketball team for a violation of team rules.

UCF—Named Nicole Trimboli assistant softball coach.

Soccer

MLS playoffs

EASTERN CONFERENCE Semifinals

Columbus vs. Real Salt Lake

Saturday: Columbus at Real Salt Lake, **Thursday**, Nov. 5: Real Salt Lake at Columbus

Chicago vs. New England

Sunday: Chicago at New England, **Saturday**, Nov. 7: New England at Chicago

Championship

Thursday, Nov. 12: TBD

Saturday, Nov. 14: TBD

WESTERN CONFERENCE Semifinals

Los Angeles vs. Chivas USA

Sunday: Los Angeles at Chivas USA

Saturday, Nov. 8: Chivas USA at L.A.

Houston vs. Seattle

Thursday: Houston at Seattle

Sunday, Nov. 8: Seattle at Houston

Championship

Thursday, Nov. 12: TBD

Saturday, Nov. 14: TBD

MLS Cup

Sunday, Nov. 22: at Seattle

TANK McNAMARA



Tennis

Lyon GP

Thursday
At Palais des Sports de Gerland
Lyon, France
Purse: \$975,250 (WT250)
Surface: Carpet-Indoor
Singles
Second Round

Ivan Ljubicic (3), Croatia, def. Nicolas Kiefer, Germany, 6-3, 6-3.

Marc Gicquel, France, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu (6), France, 6-4, 6-0.

Michael Llodra, France, def. Juan Monaco (4), Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Arnaud Clement, France, def. Benjamin Becker (7), Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (1), France, def. Olivier Rochus, Belgium, 6-3, 6-2.

Gilles Simon (2), France, def. David Guez, France, 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles
Quarterfinals

Marcelo Melo and Andre Sa, Brazil, def. Jeff Coetzee, South Africa, and Stephan Huss, Australia, 6-3, 6-4.

Julien Benneteau and Nicolas Mahut, France, def. Leonardo Mayer and Martin Vassallo Arguello, Argentina, 6-4, 7-6 (3).

Simone Bolelli, Italy, and Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, def. Marc Gicquel and Michael Llodra, France, 4-6, 7-5, 12-10 tiebreaker.

Arnaud Clement and Sebastien Grosjean, France, def. Lucas Arnold Ker and Juan Monaco, Argentina, 6-4, 6-1.

Doubles
Quarterfinals

Marin Cilic (1), Croatia, def. Daniel Bemelmans, Germany, 7-6 (7), 6-4.

Feliciano Lopez (6), Spain, def. Daniel Becker, Austria, 6-3, 6-3.

Gael Monfils (3), France, def. Jan Hajek, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-4.

Jurgen Melzer (7), Austria, def. Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, 6-4, 7-5.

Janko Tipsarevic, Serbia, def. Michael Berrer, Germany, 7-6 (3), 6-1.

Doubles
Quarterfinals

John Isner, United States, and Jordan Kerr, Australia, def. Andreas Seppi and Simone Vagnozzi, Italy, 6-3, 7-6 (7).

Christopher Kas and Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Mariusz Fyrstenberg and Marcin Matkowski (2), Poland, 6-4, 3-6, 11-9 tiebreaker.

Lukasz Kubot, Poland, and Oliver Marach (3), Austria, def. Michael Kohlmann, Germany, and Alexander Peya, Austria, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 10-8 tiebreaker.

WTA Championships

Wednesday
At the Khalifa Tennis Centre
Doha, Qatar

Purse: \$4.55 million (Tour Championship)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
Round Robin

Caroline Wozniacki (4), Denmark, def. Victoria Azarenka (6), Belarus, 1-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Jelena Jankovic (8), Serbia, def. Dinara Safina (1), Russia, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1.

Standings: Wozniacki 1-0 (sets 2-1), Azarenka 1-1 (3-2), Jankovic 1-1 (1-2), Safina 0-1 (0-1).

Maroon Group

Serena Williams, U.S., def. Venus Williams, United States, 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

Standings: S. Williams 2-0 (4-1), E. Williams 0-2 (2-4), Svetlana Kuznetsova 0-1 (0-2).

St. Petersburg Open

Thursday
At SCC Peterburgsky
St. Petersburg, Russia

Purse: \$760,000 (WT250)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Second Round

Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, def. Andrey Kuznetsov, Russia, 6-1, 6-4.

Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, def. Michael Elgin, Russia, 6-2, 6-3.

Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Mikhail Youzhny (1), Russia, 6-2, 2-1, retired.

Marat Safin, Russia, def. Igor Andreev (5), Russia, 6-3, 0-1, retired.

Doubles

Colin Fleming and Ken Skupski, Britain, def. Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, and Horacio Zeballos, Argentina, 7-6 (7), 6-4.

Jeremy Chardy and Richard Gasquet, France, def. Leos Friedl and Jaroslav Levinsky, Czech Republic, 7-6, 6-2.

Michail Elgin and Teimuraz Gabashvili, Russia, def. James Cerretani, United States, and David Skoch, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

A WEEKLY LOOK

RACING STRIPES AT MOTORSPORTS

Jimmie Johnson: Uneasy rider

Talladega, his worst track, puts three-time defending Cup champ on edge

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. It's down to Talladega Superspeedway in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, which has hardly resembled a title race over the past four weeks.

Three-time defending champion Jimmie Johnson has taken control in his bid for a NASCAR record fourth consecutive title, and his challengers have one last desperate hope at the largest and most unpredictable track on the circuit. Only it's not about how well Mark Martin, Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart or Juan Pablo Montoya might run Sunday. No, this race is about what could happen to Johnson.

Talladega is Johnson's worst track in the 10-race Chase. There was a victory in 2006 and a pair of runner-up finishes the next season, but the rest of his record represents the struggle that Johnson has had on the high-banked Alabama track.

Three engine failures and three wrecks, including a late accident in April that led to a 30th-place finish, have left Johnson with six DNFs and a 17.7 average finish.

"Man, it [stinks] racing here," Johnson said after wrecking out of April's race.

So it makes sense that Johnson was a bit testy following his second-place finish at Martinsville last week. The questions, no surprise, turned to Talladega and the unknowns that track brings for the usually unflappable champion.

He knows the smallest miscalculation Sunday — by himself or anyone else in the 43-car field — could trigger "The Big One."



RICK HAVNER/AP

Jimmie Johnson, the Chase points leader, does not have a good track record at Talladega, site of Sunday's race. He's had three engine failures and three wrecks there that led to six DNFs.

And the damage might be enough to swallow a ton of Johnson's cushy, 118-point lead over Hendrick Motorsports teammate Martin.

Tell us, champ, just how do you feel about going to Talladega?

"I'm so tired of answering this question," he replied. "I think you guys can all figure it out. Talladega, there's no telling."

No, there's not, and that apparently has Johnson on edge. Particularly because it's the one

place that has his challengers chomping at the bit.

Martin, who has made no secret of his dislike of Talladega despite two career victories, figures the odds are in his favor of having a good race Sunday. He was caught in the first accident in April and was headed home after just six laps. He finished last.

"Somehow or another, I just feel lucky about this one," Martin said recently. "If you can wreck on lap five of the last one there, some-

thing tells me I ought to be able to miss it this time. That's about as bad of luck as you can have."

Gordon, another Hendrick teammate, is a six-time Talladega winner with a 12.3 average finish. Although he also was a victim of accidents in the past two races — he has consecutive finishes of 38th and 37th — he swept the 2007 events.

Gordon, the four-time series champion, is hoping a good finish Sunday will trim into the 150-

point lead Johnson has over him.

"You can be aggressive or you can be conservative, either approach can be good or bad, and I don't believe one approach works better than the other," Gordon said. "'The Big One' is going to happen, it's just whether you get caught up in the crash or not, or whether it comes early or late in the race. Just be ahead of it or way behind it — don't be in the middle of it."

"Rarely do you escape when you are in the middle of it."

Then there's Stewart, the defending race winner. A six-time runner-up at Talladega, his victory last October was long overdue, and another could help him chip away at his 192-point deficit.

And don't forget Montoya, who wishes he could forget the Chase race at Charlotte two weeks ago. Throw out his 35th-place finish there, and Montoya would be on Johnson's back bumper. Instead, he's 200 points out despite finishes of either third or fourth in the other Chase races.

Now he goes to Talladega, a track that has suited him since his 2006 departure from Formula One. He made his stock-car debut at Talladega three years ago in an ARCA race, finished second in the 2007 Cup event and won the pole in April.

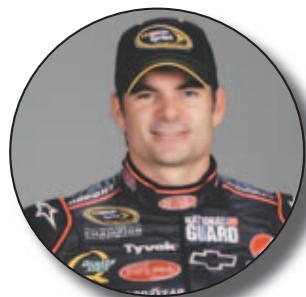
He's perhaps the one driver not concerned with how Johnson runs every week, and that could play into his favor Sunday.

"You've got to worry about what you're doing, not what everybody else is doing," Montoya said. "I think people keep worrying about what he is doing, and as long as you keep worrying about what he's doing, you're not doing your job properly."

FAST FACTS

SPRINT CUP

Race 33: AMP Energy 500
at Talladega Superspeedway, Talladega, Ala.
3 a.m. Monday, Japan & Korea, AFN-Xtra



Driver to watch: Talladega seems to bring out the best in Jeff Gordon, who has won six times at the track. But it's been two years since he last won there, winning both races in 2007.

DRIVER STANDINGS

Through 32 of 36 races

1. Jimmie Johnson	6,098
2. Mark Martin	5,980
3. Jeff Gordon	5,948
4. Tony Stewart	5,906
5. Juan Pablo Montoya	5,898
6. Kurt Busch	5,858
7. Ryan Newman	5,786
8. Greg Biffle	5,748
9. Denny Hamlin	5,746
10. Carl Edwards	5,685
11. Kasey Kahne	5,659
12. Brian Vickers	5,568
13. Kyle Busch	3,920
14. Matt Kenseth	3,895
15. Clint Bowyer	3,805
16. David Reutimann	3,764
17. Marcos Ambrose	3,453
18. Jeff Burton	3,379
19. Casey Mears	3,378
20. Joey Logano	3,324
21. Kevin Harvick	3,275
22. Jamie McMurray	3,091
23. Martin Truex Jr.	3,064
24. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3,062
25. AJ Allmendinger	3,020

NATIONWIDE SERIES

Last race: Brad Keselowski raced to his fourth victory of the year, holding off series leader Kyle Busch at Memphis Motorsports Park.

Next race: O'Reilly Challenge, Nov. 7, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas.

Driver Standings

1. Kyle Busch	5,179
2. Carl Edwards	4,964
3. Brad Keselowski	4,922

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS

This week: Mountain Dew 250 at Talladega, Ala.

Next race: WinStar World Casino 350, Nov. 6, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas.

Driver Standings

1. Ron Hornaday Jr.	3,375
2. Matt Crafton	3,151
3. Mike Skinner	3,049

FORMULA ONE

This week: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Worth noting: Jenson Button wrapped up his first season title in the Brazilian Grand Prix two weeks ago.

Driver Standings

1. Jenson Button	89
2. Sebastian Vettel	74
3. Rubens Barrichello	72

INDYCAR SERIES

Last race: Dario Franchitti won the final race of the season, the Firestone Indy 300.

Final Driver Standings

1. Dario Franchitti	616
2. Scott Dixon	605
3. Ryan Briscoe	604

NHRA

This week: NHRA Las Vegas Nationals at Las Vegas (9:30 a.m. Monday, AFN-Xtra).

Next event: Automobile Club of Southern California Finals, Nov. 12-15, Auto Club Raceway at Pomona, Pomona, Calif.

Driver Standings

Top Fuel

1. Tony Schumacher	2,427
2. Larry Dixon	2,380
3. Cory McClenathan	2,359

Funny Car

1. Robert Hight

2. Ashley Force Hood

3. Tony Pedregon

Pro Stock

1. Mike Edwards

2. Greg Anderson

3. Jason Line

Pro Stock Motorcycle

1. Hector Arana

2. Eddie Krawiec

3. Michael Phillips

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MICHAEL Dwyer/AP

The Celtics' Kevin Garnett, right, beats the Bobcats' Nazr Mohammed for a rebound Wednesday. Garnett, who missed last year's playoffs because of knee problems, slipped on the court late in the third quarter and did not play the fourth. He wasn't injured.

Garnett slip gives Celtics a scare in rout of Bobcats

By JIMMY GOLEN
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Kevin Garnett returned to the Boston parquet and slipped on it, putting a bigger scare into the Celtics than the Charlotte Bobcats could.

In his first game back in Boston since the injury that knocked him out of last year's playoffs, Garnett scored 10 points with seven rebounds over 26 easy minutes and the Celtics held Charlotte to a 92-59 victory.

"It's great we could rest our bodies," said Paul Pierce, who scored 15 points and also sat out the fourth quarter one night after a more difficult victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers. "The more rest, the better. That means we're playing well, especially the starters."

Garnett, who missed 25 games and the playoffs last year because of strained ligaments in his right knee, slipped on the floor late in the third quarter and appeared to be slow getting up. But he dismissed concerns of an injury, saying he relaxed because he saw his teammates were back to protect against the fast break.

"It was just a slide into second base," said Garnett. "The umpire said I was safe."

And then he was out.

Garnett left the game with 4:06 left in the third quarter as coach Doc Rivers rested his aging Big Three to preserve them for the

long-haul regular season.

"You guys keep reminding them how old they are," Rivers said to reporters. "It was time for him to come out anyway. But any time he goes to the floor and just gets up [is good]. The rarity is seeing a big guy diving to the floor with a big lead. But that's who he is and that's who you want him to continue to be."

Ray Allen was the only Boston starter to play in the fourth, finishing with 18. Rajon Rondo scored 10 and had 11 assists, and newcomers Rasheed Wallace and Shelden Williams came off the bench to help. Wallace had three three-pointers and Williams had 12 points and nine rebounds.

Gerald Wallace had 10 points and 12 rebounds — the only Bobcat to reach double digits in scoring.

Asked if he'd ever coached a team that scored in the 50s, Hall of Famer Larry Brown said, "I don't know if they call that coaching."

"Our team wasn't prepared. Weren't ready to play," he said. "That's nobody's fault but the coach."

Garnett went through his usual pregame routine, pumping his arms and banging his head against the basket support. He hopped around the court, pointing at the crowd, drawing cheers from the fans who believe that his injury was the only thing that kept Boston from winning back-to-back NBA championships.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	2	0	1.000	—
Toronto	1	0	1.000	½
New Jersey	0	1	.000	½
New York	0	1	.000	½
Philadelphia	0	1	.000	½

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	0	1.000	—
Miami	1	0	1.000	—
Orlando	1	0	1.000	—
Washington	1	0	1.000	—
Charlotte	0	1	.000	1

Central Division

Detroit	1	0	1.000	—
Chicago	0	0	.000	½
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	½
Indiana	0	1	.000	1
Cleveland	0	2	.000	½

Western Conference

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	1	0	1.000	—
Houston	1	1	.500	½
Dallas	0	1	.000	1
Memphis	0	1	.000	1
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1

Northwest Division

Denver	1	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	—
Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	—
Portland	1	0	1.000	—
Utah	0	1	.000	1

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	1	0	1.000	—
Golden State	0	1	.000	1
Sacramento	0	1	.000	1
L.A. Clippers	0	2	.000	½

Tuesday's games

Boston 95, Cleveland 89
Washington 102, Dallas 91
Portland 96, Houston 87
L.A. Lakers 99, L.A. Clippers 92
Wednesday's games
Atlanta 102, Indiana 109
Orlando 120, Philadelphia 106
Toronto 101, Cleveland 91
Boston 92, Charlotte 59
Miami 115, New York 93
Detroit 96, Memphis 74
Minnesota 95, New Jersey 93
San Antonio 113, New Orleans 96
Oklahoma City 102, Sacramento 89
Denver 114, Utah 105
Phoenix 109, L.A. Clippers 107
Houston 108, Golden State 107
Thursday's games
San Antonio at Chicago
Denver at Portland
Friday's games
New York at Charlotte
Milwaukee at Philadelphia
Washington at Atlanta
Chicago at Boston
Oklahoma City at Detroit
Miami at Indiana
Toronto at Memphis
Cleveland at Minnesota
Orlando at New Jersey
Sacramento at New Orleans
L.A. Clippers at Utah
Golden State at Phoenix
Dallas at L.A. Lakers

Wednesday

	W	L	Pct	GB
Hawks 120, Pacers 109	32	33	.529	—
Atlanta 32	33	29	.531	—
Atlanta 29	37	29	.520	—
Atlanta 29	37	29	.520	—
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Hawks 120, Pacers 109	32	33	.529</	

NBA roundup

LeBron on being 0-2: What, me worry?

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Seven years in the NBA taught LeBron James the importance of patience. It's being tested after Cleveland is winless in two games.

Andrea Bargnani scored 28 points, Chris Bosh had 21 points and 16 rebounds, and the Toronto Raptors overcame James' 25th career triple-double to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 101-91 on Wednesday night.

"Early in my career, I'd get very upset when you lose two or three games, you'd just feel like you can't turn it around," James said. "But I'm at a point in my career now where I know that you can lose two but, at the same time, you don't look too far into it. You learn from the mistakes and you just try to get better."

James had 23 points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds, but Cleveland opened its season with consecutive losses for the first time since going 0-3 in 2004-05. James scored 38 points in Tuesday's 95-89 home loss to Boston.

"I'm still positive," James said. "If it was 25 or 35 games into the season and we were going through a three- or four-game losing streak, then I'd be a little bit disappointed, but I'm not at this point."

Mo Williams scored 16 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 12 for Cleveland.

"Coach is still learning us, we're still learning the system, we're still learning each other," O'Neal said. "It's going to be a work in progress."

Magic 120, 76ers 106: At Orlando, Fla., Dwight Howard had 21 points and 15 rebounds, Vince Carter scored 15 points and the new-look Magic rolled to a victory over Philadelphia in the season opener for both teams.

Ryan Anderson added 16 points, and Jason Williams had 15 points to highlight a deep Magic bench. Orlando went ahead by 23 points at the half, and scored 100



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Raptors forward Andrea Bargnani, left, who finished with 28 points, hounds Cavaliers forward LeBron James during Wednesday's game. James had his 25th career triple-double, but the Raptors won.

through three quarters.

Marreese Speights had 26 points, and Elton Brand added eight points in his first regular-season game since missing most of 2008-09 with Philadelphia because of a right shoulder injury.

Hawks 120, Pacers 109: Joe Johnson scored 25 points, Al Horford had 24 and host Atlanta finally played some defense in an offensive shootout, pulling away in the fourth quarter for a season-opening victory over Indiana.

The Pacers shot 53 percent from the field but only 5-for-15 in the final period, including an uncontested layup at the end.

Heat 115, Knicks 93: Dwyane Wade began defense of his NBA scoring title with 26 points,

Jermaine O'Neal finished with 22 points and 12 rebounds, and Miami opened its season with a home victory.

New starting power forward Michael Beasley scored 21 for Miami, which shot 9-for-25 in the first quarter — then made a staggering 26 of its next 31 over the next 20 minutes, on the way to building an 85-59 lead.

Thunder 102, Kings 89: Kevin Durant had 25 points and 11 rebounds, Jeff Green added 24 points and the Thunder led from start to finish at home.

Oklahoma City made 10 of its first 13 shots and built a double-digit lead in the first 6 minutes, then never let Sacramento mount a serious comeback.

Nenad Krstic added 20 points and Russell Westbrook had 14 points and a career-high 13 assists for the Thunder.

Spurs 113, Hornets 96: At San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 17 points before leaving the game after a hard fall.

Parker landed with a thud on his right side after slicing between fellow All-Star Chris Paul and Hilton Armstrong for a layup late in the third quarter. He lay scrunched and winced for more than a minute before walking back to the bench on his own.

The contact set off heated words between Paul and Spurs newcomer Richard Jefferson, who were hit with technical fouls at mid-court upon being separated.

Paul led all scorers with 26 points and Emeka Okafor had 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Timberwolves 95, Nets 93: Jonny Flynn scored 13 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter to help Minnesota erase a 19-point deficit and Damien Wilkins' put-back at the buzzer lifted the Timberwolves at home.

Minnesota trailed by 16 points with less than 7 minutes to play. But the rookie Flynn scored 11 points the rest of the way and the Timberwolves closed the game on a 24-6 run to steal the victory.

Brook Lopez had 27 points, 15 rebounds and four blocks for New Jersey.

Pistons 96, Grizzlies 74: Richard Hamilton scored 25 points, Ben Gordon added 22, and visiting Detroit ran away from the Grizzlies. The guards were a combined 17-for-31 from the floor, and that was after Hamilton started the game missing five of his first six shots. Hamilton left the game after spraining his right ankle on a shot with just under 5 minutes to play.

Rockets 108, Warriors 107: Luis Scola scored 15 of his 21 points in the third quarter and grabbed 11 rebounds, Aaron Brooks had 18 points and 12 assists, and visiting Houston held off Golden State.

Anthony Morrow missed a would-be tying three-pointer under pressure in the waning seconds and Stephen Curry scored the putback at the buzzer.

Suns 109, Clippers 107: Steve Nash scored 15 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter, when he rallied Phoenix to a season-opening victory over host Los Angeles. Grant Hill had 19 points and 13 rebounds, and Leandro Barbosa added 17 points.

Nuggets 114, Jazz 105: At Denver, Carmelo Anthony had a game-high 30 points and rookie Ty Lawson scored seven of his 17 points in a pivotal fourth-quarter run for the Nuggets.

Zama-ASIJ volleyball

Zama American senior middle blocker Alivia Scott smacks the ball against American School In Japan during Thursday's Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools girls volleyball match at Trojans Gymnasium, Zama American High School, Camp Zama, Japan. ASU won 25-19, 25-23, 25-19. Zama's players wore pink ribbons in their hair and a pink and white volleyball was used in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

NICK JORGENSEN/special to Stars and Stripes



High school scoreboard

Japan

Girls volleyball
Thursday's summary
American School In Japan def. Zama American 25-19, 25-23, 25-19
At Camp Zama

Spike kills—ASU, Nina O'Leary 12, Elena Wadden 5; Zama, Lucy Diaz 5. **Service aces**—ASU, Katrina Heiberg 5 (including last 3 to close match). **Set assists**—ASU, Hannah Siegel 13, Janet Kanazawa 5; Zama, Kristen Dulay 11.

Okinawa
Girls volleyball
Thursday's summary
Kubasaki def. Okinawa Christian International 25-19, 25-15, 25-17
At Camp Foster

Spike kills—Kubasaki, Bryttany Hinson 7. **Defensive digs**—Nikki Moretti 15. **Set assists**—Kubasaki, Ku'uleialoha Ampong 20.

South Korea
Tennis
Wednesday's results
At Seongnam
Boys
Seoul American 4, Seoul International 1
Singles

Chong Lee, SAHS, def. Dennis Ryu 8-1
Jay Han, SAHS, def. Jingwoo Hong 8-4
Abe Nelson, SAHS, def. David Chair 8-6

Doubles

Josh Kim and Matt Bruhnke, SAHS, def. Kevin Nam and Sung woo Young 8-3
Andrew Lee and Sean Kim, SIS, def. Chris Horton and Robinson Cho 8-1

Boys volleyball

Wednesday's summary
Osan American def. Yongsan International-Seoul 25-20, 25-10, 25-13
At Seoul
Girls volleyball

Wednesday's summary

Osan American def. Yongsan International-Seoul 25-15, 23-25, 25-16, 25-14
At Seoul

Spike kills

YIS-S, Jessi Son 7. **Defensive digs**—YIS-S, Margaret Jang 7. **Set assists**—YIS-S, Alii LaReau 13, Hannah Kim 5.

Guam

Girls basketball
Tuesday's summary
Notre Dame 63, Guam High 44
At Asan

ND 15 13 13 22-63
Guam High 8 12 16 8-44

Scoring—Notre Dame, Kaelin Soriano 17, Joni-Monay Tedpahago 12, Brittney Duñas 10; Guam High, Janessa Blas 18, Teesha Unsio 13. **Noteworthy**—Royals took advantage of a foul trouble on Panthers' Carmina Sheaks and Kara Guerrero and capitalized on the offensive boards to break open the game by out-scoring Guam High by 14 points in the final quarter. Notre Dame shot 9-for-18 at the foul line in the second half, Guam High 1-for-2.

NHL roundup

Crosby's hat trick a 10 for Penguins

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Superstitions Sinday Crosby didn't want to jinx his shot at a hat trick after his first two goals. Perhaps for the same reason, he isn't willing to acknowledge he's morphing into a top goal-scorer.

Crosby had his third career hat trick and the Pittsburgh Penguins became the first NHL team to reach 10 victories this season, snapping the Montreal Canadiens' four-game winning streak with a 6-1 victory Wednesday night. A few hours later, Colorado also reached 10 wins, beating Calgary 3-2 to improve to 10-1-2.

Crosby, tied for fifth in the NHL with nine goals, had his third multiple-goal game in 12 starts this season for Pittsburgh (10-2-0).

"When you get three goals in a game, that kind of changes the look of your [season] numbers early on," Crosby said. "I'm trying to shoot the puck when I get chances and trying to not pass up good shots, but it's just been a matter of the puck going in early on."

Chris Kunitz also scored and assisted on all three of Crosby's goals. Mike Rupp and Alex Goligoski added goals, and Bill Guerin had three assists.

Marc-Andre Fleury made 23 saves, allowing only Tomas Plekanec's power-play goal.

Crosby has averaged roughly twice as many assists as goals over the course of his career but is on a pace for 62 this season.

Avalanche 3, Flames 2: At Calgary, Alberta, Wojtek Wolski broke a tie at 5:31 of the third period, and Craig Anderson made 30 saves to help Colorado reach 10 victories.

Wolski scored his team-high eighth goal, beating Miikka Kiprusoff with a wrist shot from the high slot. Anderson has started all 13 games for Colorado (10-1-2).

Calgary's Jarome Iginla and Olli Jokinen scored 15 seconds apart early in the first period, but David Koci and David Jones countered for Colorado in the period.

Colorado has won four straight games to set a team record for victories in a month. The Avalanche also improved to 6-1-2 on the road.

Islanders 3, Rangers 1: At Uniondale, N.Y., Islanders captain Doug Weight, in his first game back following a bout with swine flu, earned an assist on Kyle Okposo's tiebreaking, power-play goal late in the second period.

Matt Moulson and John Tavares also scored, and Dwayne Roloson stopped 34 shots in the Islanders' first regulation win of the season. P.A. Parenteau, in the Rangers' lineup only because top scorer Marian Gaborik sat out because of an undisclosed injury sustained two nights earlier, scored his first NHL goal.

Blues 5, Hurricanes 2: At Raleigh, N.C., David Perron had two

goals, Yan Stastny and Jay McClement scored 16 seconds apart, and Chris Mason made 34 saves for St. Louis.

Andy McDonald also scored for the Blues, 3-1-1 on the road. Joe Corvo and Scott Walker scored the Hurricanes, 0-4-3 in their past seven games.

Sabres 4, Devils 1: Clarke MacArthur and Tim Kennedy scored early in the first period, and Ryan Miller made 31 saves to help Buffalo improve to 4-0 on the road.

Paul Gaustad and Jason Pominville iced the game with third-period goals. Defenseman Andy Greene scored on a power play for New Jersey.

Coyotes 4, Blue Jackets 1: At Columbus, Ohio, Martin Hanzal, Zbynek Michalek and Robert Lang scored power-play goals, and Jason LaBarbera made 31 saves for Phoenix.

James Vandermeer also scored, and Keith Yandle had three assists.

Derick Brassard scored for Columbus.

Senators 4, Panthers 3: At Sunrise, Fla., Nick Foligno and Jarkko Ruutu scored in a 38-second span late in the second period for Ottawa.

Mike Fisher and Daniel Alfredsson also scored, and defenseman Filip Kuba added two assists after missing the previous eight games because of a lower-body injury.

Steve Reinprecht, Stephen Weiss and Bryan McCabe scored for Florida, which has lost four straight to drop to 2-7-1.

Pedators 4, Wild 3: At St. Paul, Minn., Jereed Smithson scored a short-handed goal midway through the third period to give Nashville its second regulation victory of the season.

Shea Weber had a goal and an assist, J.P. Dumont and Mike Santorelli added goals, and Steve Sullivan had two assists. Pekka Rinne improved to 2-3 on the season, stopping 11 shots after replacing Dan Ellis at the 2:18 mark of the second period.

Brent Burns, Cal Clutterbuck and Owen Nolan scored for Minnesota.

Stars 4, Maple Leafs 3 (OT): At Dallas, James Neal scored for Dallas with 2:03 left in overtime, beating Toronto rookie Jonas Gustavsson off a rebound.

Brad Richards scored twice, Mike Ribeiro added a goal, and Marty Turco made 33 saves for the Stars. Nikolai Kulemin had two goals, Lee Stempniak struck on the power play, and Jason Blake had three assists for Toronto.

Sharks 2, Kings 1 (SO): At San Jose, Calif., Ryane Clowe scored in the sixth round of a shootout, and Evgeni Nabokov stopped Jarret Stoll moments later to give San Jose the victory.

San Jose's Patrick Marleau and Los Angeles' Alexander Frolov had second-period goals.



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby slides the puck under Canadiens goalie Jaroslav Halak for his third goal.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	12	10	2	0	20	43
N.Y. Rangers	13	8	4	1	17	47
New Jersey	10	6	4	0	12	27
Philadelphia	10	5	4	1	11	33
N.Y. Islanders	11	2	4	5	9	25

Northeast Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	9	7	1	1	15	30
Ottawa	10	6	2	2	14	34
Montreal	12	6	6	0	12	31
Boston	10	5	4	1	11	30
Toronto	10	1	7	2	4	24

Southeast Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	11	7	2	2	16	41
Atlanta	8	4	3	1	9	28
Tampa Bay	9	3	3	3	9	24
Carolina	11	2	6	3	7	26
Florida	10	2	7	1	5	22

Western Conference

Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	11	7	3	1	15	36
Columbus	11	6	5	0	12	34
St. Louis	10	5	4	1	11	29
Detroit	10	4	4	2	10	30
Nashville	11	4	6	1	9	22

Northwest Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	13	10	2	2	22	44
Calgary	11	7	3	1	15	43
Edmonton	12	6	5	1	13	38
Vancouver	12	6	6	0	12	35
Minnesota	12	3	9	0	6	26

Pacific Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	13	8	4	1	17	45
San Jose	13	8	4	1	17	44
Dallas	12	6	2	4	16	41
Phoenix	11	7	4	0	14	30
Anaheim	10	3	6	1	7	25

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Wednesday games

Phoenix 4, Columbus 1
N.Y. Islanders 3, N.Y. Rangers 1
St. Louis 5, Carolina 2
Buffalo 4, New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 1

Thursday's games

New Jersey at Boston
Washington at Atlanta
Ottawa at Tampa Bay
Chicago at Nashville
Phoenix at St. Louis
Detroit at Edmonton
Vancouver at Los Angeles

Friday's games

N.Y. Islanders at Washington
Pittsburgh at Columbus
Toronto at Buffalo
N.Y. Rangers at Minnesota
Montreal at Chicago
Florida at Dallas
Vancouver at Anaheim
Colorado at San Jose

Saturday games

Phoenix 4, Columbus 1
St. Louis 5, Carolina 2
Buffalo 4, New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 1
Vancouver 3, Los Angeles 2

Sunday games

Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 2
St. Louis 2, Carolina 1
Buffalo 4, New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 1
Vancouver 3, Los Angeles 2

Monday games

Montreal 2, Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis 2, Carolina 1
Buffalo 4, New Jersey 1
Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 1
Vancouver 3, Los Angeles 2

Blues 5, Hurricanes 2

St. Louis	3	1	1-5
Carolina	1	0	1-2
First Period	1	St. Louis, Perron 2 (Berglund, Crombeen), 7:32. 2, St. Louis, Stastny 1, 5:52. 3, St. Louis, McClement 3 (Perron, Sydor), 16:08. 4, Carolina, Corvo 2 (Wallin, Staaf), 19:07 (pp).	
Second Period	5	St. Louis, McDonald 4 (Tachuk, Polak), 9:42.	
Third Period	6	St. Louis, Walker 2, 8:12 (pp). 7, St. Louis, Perron 3, 19:08 (en).	

Islanders 3, Rangers 1

N.Y. Rangers	1	0	0-1
N.Y. Islanders	1	1	1-3
First Period	1	N.Y. Islanders, Moulson 6 (Hillen), 5:55. 2, N.Y. Rangers, Parenteau 1, 8:30.	
Second Period	3	N.Y. Islanders, Tkachuk 3 (Hillen, Weight), 18:14 (pp).	
Third Period	4	N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 4 (Tambellini), 14:24.	

Sabres 4, Devils 1

Buffalo	2	0	2-4
New Jersey	0	1	0-1
First Period	1	Buffalo, MacArthur 5 (Rivet, Pominville), 1:21. 2, Buffalo, Kennedy 1 (Hecht, Montador), 6:00.	
Second Period	3	New Jersey, Greene 1 (Parise, Langenbrunner), 4:17 (pp).	
Third Period	4	Buffalo, Gastaud 2 (Elis, Montador), 9:25. 5, Buffalo, Pominville 3 (Butler, Connolly), 17:21 (pp).	

Sabres 4, Devils 1

Buffalo	2	0	2-4
New Jersey	0	1	0-1
First Period	1	Buffalo, MacArthur 5 (Rivet, Pominville), 1:21 (pp).	
Second Period	3	New Jersey, Greene 1 (Parise, Langenbrunner), 4:17 (pp).	
Third Period	4	Buffalo, Gastaud 2 (Elis, Montador), 9:25. 5, Buffalo, Pominville 3 (Butler, Connolly), 17:21 (pp).	

Coyotes 4, Blue Jackets 1

Phoenix	0	2</

Sports briefs

Kansas No. 1 in preseason hoops poll

The Associated Press

For the second time in its storied basketball history, Kansas is No. 1 in The Associated Press' preseason Top 25.

The Jayhawks were a runaway choice Thursday, receiving 55 first-place votes from the 65-member national media panel to easily outdistance Michigan State, which was No. 1 on five ballots.

There was little suspense as to which team would top the preseason poll. Kansas has all five starters and the top nine scorers back from last season's team that went 27-8 and reached the third round of the NCAA tournament.

The Jayhawks also feature a recruiting class considered among the nation's best.

The Jayhawks received great news when guard Sherron Collins and center Cole Aldrich, last season's leading scorers, decided to return to school rather than test the NBA Draft.

Then brothers Xavier and C.J. Henry decided to enroll at KU, making the Jayhawks the early national favorite as well as the choice to win a sixth consecutive Big 12 title.

Michigan State has seven of the top nine scorers back from the team that lost to North Carolina in the national championship game.

Texas, Kentucky and Villanova rounded out the top five, and North Carolina, a unanimous preseason No. 1 last season, was sixth.

Kentucky received three first-place votes and Texas and North Carolina got one each. Purdue, West Virginia, Duke and Tennessee completed the top 10.

Butler was 11th in the poll followed by Connecticut, California, Washington, Michigan, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Mississippi State, Louisville and Georgetown. The last five were Dayton, Georgia Tech, Illinois, Clemson and Minnesota.

Kentucky, under new coach John Calipari and with a loaded freshman class, Georgetown and Georgia Tech were the only teams in the preseason poll not to play in the NCAA tournament last season.

The Big Ten has six teams in the preseason poll, one more than the Big East. The Atlantic Coast Conference had four and the Big 12 and Southeastern Conference three each.

Also:

■ A federal judge denied a prosecution request for a psychiatric evaluation of the woman accused in a plot to extort \$10 million from Louisville coach Rick Pitino. U.S. District Judge Charles Simpson ruled that there was no "reasonable cause" to question Karen Cunagin Sypher's competency. Prosecutors had noted in asking for the exam that Sypher's former attorney was concerned about her mental state. Sypher has pleaded not guilty to federal charges of attempting to extort money from Pitino and lying to the FBI. Pitino has acknowledged a sexual encounter with her at a Louisville restaurant in 2003.

Shaq applies for job as special deputy

CLEVELAND — Shaquille O'Neal is looking to continue a sideline career in law enforcement now that he's playing for the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Spokesman John O'Brien of the Cuyahoga County sheriff's office said O'Neal applied to become a special deputy.

He would have the right to carry a gun and make arrests but not be a paid employee.

O'Neal served roles with law enforcement agencies in Arizona, Virginia and Florida.

The sheriff has forwarded the applica-



CHUCK BURTON/AP

NASCAR driver A.J. Allmendinger was arrested early Thursday morning on a charge of drunken driving. Mooresville, N.C., police said Allmendinger failed a field sobriety test.

tion to the state agency that must consider the request to deputize O'Neal.

State attorney general's spokeswoman Holly Hollingsworth said that, if approved, O'Neal would need 36 hours of police training and would have to take the Ohio police exam.

Also:

■ Saying he was "overwhelmed," Tim Hardaway beamed as he watched his No. 10 jersey raised to the rafters in retirement by the Miami Heat. With about 50 family members and friends looking on, including the two other parts of the famed "Run TMC" trio — Mitch Richmond and Chris Mullin — that he first captured NBA acclaim with, Hardaway's oversized jersey was hoisted skyward.

Tebow, McCoy finalists for Campbell Trophy

DALLAS — Florida quarterback Tim Tebow and Texas quarterback Colt McCoy were among 16 finalists for the Campbell Trophy, given to the nation's top senior scholar in college football.

The Campbell Trophy is presented by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

The winner receives \$25,000 in scholarship money.

All finalists receive an \$18,000 scholarship toward postgraduate studies.

The other finalists were Illinois guard Jon Asamoah, BYU linebacker Matt Buman, Minnesota receiver Eric Decker, Fresno State safety Moses Harris, Western Michigan quarterback Tim Hiller, Brown defensive tackle Paul Jasinski, Morningside College receiver Beau Kildow, Northern Iowa linebacker Josh Mahoney, Tusculum tight end Jarrell NeSmith, Baylor linebacker Joe Pawelek, Kansas quarterback Todd Reesing, Hardin-Simmons receiver Zavious Robbins, Augustana College offensive tackle Blaine Westemeyer.

er and West Virginia linebacker Reed Williams.

The award was called the Draddy Trophy until earlier this year, when it was renamed for William V. Campbell, the chairman of software company Intuit and a former player and coach at Columbia University.

Also:

■ All-America receiver Dez Bryant said he hasn't decided yet whether he'll enter the NFL Draft after the NCAA ruled that he will remain ineligible for the rest of his junior season at Oklahoma State. Bryant missed the past four games for the 13th-ranked Cowboys (6-1, 3-0 Big 12) after being declared ineligible by the school for lying to an NCAA investigator looking into Bryant's offseason meeting with former NFL player Deion Sanders. Oklahoma State has appealed the decision and expects a decision next week.

NASCAR's Allmendinger arrested on DUI charge

MOORESVILLE, N.C. — NASCAR driver AJ Allmendinger was arrested early Thursday morning on a charge of drunken driving.

Mooresville police said Allmendinger failed a field sobriety test after he was pulled over.

Allmendinger, who drives the No. 44 for Richard Petty Motorsports, said in a statement he had drinks with dinner and made a mistake in driving afterward.

"I honestly felt fine, but I obviously should have erred more on the side of caution, particularly given what I do for a living," Allmendinger said.

"It was a bad judgment call and I apologize for that."

It's not clear how his arrest might affect his career.

Petty routinely shunned alcohol sponsorship, and refused to allow his teams to participate in NASCAR's second-tier series when it was sponsored by Busch.

Penguins' Malkin to miss up to three weeks

PITTSBURGH — NHL scoring champion Evgeni Malkin will be lost to the Pittsburgh Penguins for 2-3 weeks because of a strained right shoulder.

Malkin had been attempting to play through the injury, but coach Dan Bylsma said the team decided to rest the center.

The Russian star would miss seven games if he is out two weeks and 10 games if he is out three.

"He strained his shoulder about 10 days or so ago," Bylsma said Thursday.

"I don't know the exact day. It is pre-cautionary for the player. We are worried about the safety of the shoulder. A couple of weeks of rest and rehab will get that thing healthy."

The injury will end Malkin's streak of 254 consecutive regular-season games played.

Malkin is tied with Sidney Crosby for the team lead in scoring with 14 points — four goals and 10 assists in 12 games.

Last season, Malkin was the MVP of the playoffs, getting 14 goals and 22 assists in 24 playoff games in helping the Penguins win the Stanley Cup.

He edged Washington's Alex Ovechkin 113-110 for the regular-season scoring title.

D.C. United exec fined \$5,000 by MLS

NEW YORK — D.C. United president Kevin Payne was fined \$5,000 by Major League Soccer after comments deemed detrimental to the public image of the

league. MLS did not say what comments triggered the punishment Thursday, but Payne had been critical of the conservative style of Colorado, New England and Real Salt Lake in quotes posted on The Washington Post's Web site.

Payne said the tactics create "a lot of games in our league that I can't watch."

D.C. United failed to make the playoffs after winning only nine of 30 games. New England and Real Salt Lake are in the playoffs.

Also:

■ D.C. United goalie Josh Wicks is expected to be sidelined 4-6 months after having surgery on his left shoulder. He was hurt when he collided with a player during a 2-1 loss to the San Jose Earthquakes on Sept. 27.

■ Former U.S. captain Mia Hamm, a two-time world player of the year, was appointed international ambassador for the 2011 women's World Cup in Germany. Hamm's appointment was announced Thursday, ahead of an exhibition between the United States and Germany in Augsburg. Hamm, 37, won the World Cup in 1991 and 1999, as well as gold medals in the 1996 and 2004 Olympics. She was voted FIFA women's world player of the year in 2001 and 2002 and, along with Michelle Akers, was selected by Pele as one of two women in FIFA's ranking of the 125 greatest players of all time.

Pujols says he wants to stay with Cardinals

ST. LOUIS — Calm down, Cardinal fans: Albert Pujols wants to stay in St. Louis.

"The fans know and the Cardinals know that I want to be a Cardinal for my whole career," Pujols told WXOS-FM on Thursday.

"I love this city. The way that this city has embraced me and my family."

Pujols, who has one year left on his contract plus an option year, raised eyebrows with his comments during an interview with a Dominican radio station this month.

"I'm not desperate to sign a contract extension. I still have one year remaining in my contract for 2010 and a club option for 2011. I leave the rest in God's hands," Pujols told CDN 92.5 FM.

The two-time NL MVP said he wanted the Cardinals to concentrate on signing Matt Holiday and other free agents first.

On Thursday, he reiterated that there is no rush but "if they come tomorrow and say 'Albert, you know, we want to lock you up,' they know that we're open to that."

Pujols also praised the hiring of Mark McGwire as the team's hitting instructor. Manager Tony La Russa said he talked to Pujols about McGwire before hiring the former home run champion.

Police say man warned people not to snitch in UConn stabbing

STORRS, Conn. — Police said a man posted Internet messages telling people not to snitch on those involved in the stabbing death of a University of Connecticut football player.

Christopher Mutchler, 18, was charged Thursday with counts including hindering prosecution and committing an act of terrorism.

Police said they had reason to believe the messages were instilling fear and preventing witnesses from coming forward after the Oct. 18 death of Jasper Howard.

He was stabbed outside a university-sanctioned dance.

A Bloomfield man, John Lomax III, 21, was charged this week with murder.

'Dawg Pound' denizens encouraged to lay low

The Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — One of the most loyal Dawg Pounders is through barking about the sad state of his beloved Cleveland Browns. It's time to bite.

Lifelong Browns fan and season-ticket holder Mike Randall, aka "Dawg Pound Mike," is encouraging other Cleveland fans to stay away from their seats for the opening kickoff of the Browns' Nov. 16 home game against Baltimore.

Sickened by the nearly constant losing since the team's re-

turn in 1999, Randall hopes the sight of empty seats for the start of the nationally televised Monday night game will send a loud message to owner Randy Lerner and club officials that fans have had enough.

"We're tired of losing," Randall said. "We're tired of the boozing, of seeing fans leave in the fourth quarter. There are fans who have had tickets for 30 years who are turning their seats in because they can't take it anymore. So many fans are fed up."

Randall and a friend, Tony Schafer, decided to go ahead with

plans for the protest following last Sunday's 31-3 loss to the Green Bay Packers. As they walked out of the stadium, they heard fans grumbling about how they're wasting their time and money on an inferior product that seems to be getting worse.

Their hope is that fans stay outside the stadium, on concourses or in the restrooms for the start of the game.

"We don't want to see fans with bags on their heads or boozing," Randall said. "We love the Browns and will do anything to support them. But we're not

being heard. Our goal is to say to the Browns' organization, 'Hey, listen to your fans.'"

Under first-year coach Eric Mangini, the Browns are 1-6 this season and have scored four offensive touchdowns in 81 possessions. Cleveland's defense is the league's worst.

Since coming back as an expansion team 10 years ago, the Browns are 55-113 with one play-off appearance and appear to be on their way to their eighth season of double-digit losses.

Randall, who sits in the front row of the Dawg Pound, the no-

toriously rowdy bleacher section, doesn't know where to lay blame for the Browns' misery. He has met Lerner and appreciates the ultra-private owner's attempts to turn the franchise around. He knows Mangini needs time, and Randall wishes general manager George Kokinis would let fans in on the team's intentions.

"We have no one who talks to the fans," he said. "Randy isn't out front. The GM is invisible and Mangini has said this was going to be a process and that things would improve. Well, nothing has improved."

NFL briefs

Titans owner gets his wish: Young to start at quarterback

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The owner of the Tennessee Titans wants to see more of Vince Young. He's reportedly getting just that with the winless Titans making a change at quarterback from veteran Kerry Collins back to the 2006 Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Coach Jeff Fisher planned to announce the change after practice Thursday. But The Tennessean newspaper, citing anonymous sources, said on its Web site Thursday morning that Young will start Sunday against the Jacksonville Jaguars (3-3).

Fisher was not available an hour before practice, and the team had no immediate comment.

Young split the work evenly with Collins during practice Wednesday. The Titans (0-6) also added John David Booty to the practice squad to do the work previously handled solely by Young.



STEPHAN SAVOIA/AP

Vince Young is reportedly to replace Kerry Collins as winless Tennessee's quarterback when the Titans play Jacksonville on Sunday.

or allowable by the collective bargaining agreement. Hopefully, we will be able to work out a mutual and positive resolution with the Chiefs short of a hearing. If we don't, then this will go to an arbitrator."

Schaffer said they would try to expedite the matter and get a resolution before the team's next game on Nov. 8.

The three-sentence news release issued Wednesday night by the team said only that Johnson, who turns 30 in a few weeks, was suspended for conduct detrimental to the club. The Chiefs said they would have no further comment on Johnson's status "at this time."

Bucs turn to rookie Freeman

TAMPA, Fla. — The winless Tampa Bay Buccaneers have changed starting quarterbacks again, with rookie Josh Freeman taking over the offense.

Freeman was the 17th pick in the first round of this year's draft. He made his NFL debut last Sunday, playing two series in the fourth quarter of a 35-7 loss to the Patriots in London.

"It's definitely something I've been working toward. It's finally going to be great to get an opportunity to step out there and do something," the former Kansas State standout said Wednesday.

Coach Raheem Morris was noncommittal about his quarterback plans after Freeman com-

pleted two of four passes for 16 yards and was sacked twice for 16 yards in losses during his brief stint against New England.

Morris officially made the change when the team practiced for the first time since returning from London.

"He's been waiting for his time patiently, but he's used his time wisely," said Morris, who has maintained from the day Freeman was drafted that he will not rush the 21-year-old's development.

The Bucs (0-7) have a bye this week, giving Freeman extra time to prepare for his first start Nov. 8 against Green Bay.

Freeman replaces second-year pro Josh Johnson, a fifth-round draft pick in 2008, made four starts after former Jaguars and Falcons starter Byron Leftwich led the team the first three weeks of the season.

DT Harris back at Bears practice

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Back at practice, Tommie Harris appeared to be in a good mood as he walked off the field giggling with linebackers Lance Briggs and Jamar Williams.

He didn't stop to talk. Didn't acknowledge requests for comment.

Harris had nothing to say, although the fact that the three-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle practiced Wednesday for the Chicago Bears was telling. Coach

Lovie Smith made it clear he has to practice if he wants to play, and the message apparently got through.

Harris participated without limitations for the first time on a Wednesday since the season opener after sitting out practice last week and being held out of a 45-10 loss at Cincinnati.

"By giving him off last week, he was able to get a little more work in this week so that's got to be good for him," Smith said.

The positive spin came on the heels of a loud message from Smith, who confirmed Monday that he benched Harris against the Bengals even though he could have played after being listed as doubtful because of his chronic left knee injury. On the surface, it appeared to amount to a paid suspension for a player who hasn't always stuck to his rehab regimen.

"It's not like I've had a problem with Tommie practicing," Smith said. "Physically, we've chosen to keep him out to try to let him get in a little bit better position to play Sunday. Giving him the week off last week, we feel like we're ahead of the 8-ball a little bit. It's not like he's bowed up about practicing. He wants to practice."

Ginn Jr. silent on WR shake-up

DAVIE, Fla. — Miami Dolphins receiver Ted Ginn Jr.'s status as a starter has become a hot topic, although he's not contributing to the conversation.

Ginn has yet to speak to the media since his poor performance Sunday in a loss to New Orleans. He didn't line up with the first team during the portion of Wednesday's practice open to the media, raising speculation about a lineup change.

"Just shuffling some things around in practice, doing some of those things, just make sure everybody is on their toes," coach Tony Sparano said.

When asked if Ginn had lost his starting job, Sparano said, "We'll see where we are at the end of the week."

"I'm just kind of upsetting the whole apple cart, and let's see how this thing goes. I don't want to say yes, I don't want to say no right now. Today we just said, let's let it fly. We've got five guys there that are playing this position, so

let's let them all work and see where we go from there."

Rookie Brian Hartline took Ginn's place with the first-team offense during the open portion of practice. Against the Saints, Hartline had three receptions for 94 yards.

Ginn dropped three passes against New Orleans, including one that deflected off his hands to Darren Sharper, who returned the interception 42 yards for a momentum-changing touchdown.

Ex-Viking Orlando Thomas still fighting ALS

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Former Minnesota Vikings strong safety Orlando Thomas is continuing his fight with Lou Gehrig's Disease.

The Vikings said Wednesday that they were erroneously informed by a friend of Thomas' that the 37-year-old had died. A few hours later, a team spokesman and the ex-player's agent reported that Thomas was still alive.

Agent Mark Bartelstein says he spoke with Thomas's daughter. He says Thomas is "fighting like heck" despite not being able to speak any longer due to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Thomas had 22 interceptions and 10 fumble recoveries for the Vikings from 1995 to 2001. He began feeling symptoms in 2004, and the disease was diagnosed in 2007.

Seahawks put OT Jones on IR

RENTON, Wash. — Walter Jones has gone on the Seahawks' injured reserve list, ending the six-time All-Pro left tackle's season and perhaps his career.

Coach Jim Mora said Wednesday the 35-year-old Jones still has pain that is "not bearable" in his surgically repaired left knee. Jones has had two knee surgeries since he last played last Thanksgiving.

Mora is not ruling out a third surgery for the nine-time Pro Bowl selection, who said he would like to try to play next year.

"Because it's what I love," the anchor to Seattle's offensive line for the last decade said, chuckling. "It's a game that I have put so much pride in and wanted to be the best at. So I still want to come out and do my job and play this game."

Utley turns focus back to his hitting

Phillies 2B opens World Series with homers instead of errors

BY ROB MAADDI
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With his short, compact stroke, Chase Utley is a dangerous hitter with two strikes.

CC Sabathia found out the hard way.

Philadelphia's All-Star second baseman hit two solo homers off the Yankees ace, helping the defending champion Phillies beat New York 6-1 in Game 1 of the World Series on Wednesday.

Utley worked a full count before driving a 95 mph fastball about two rows into the seats in right field with two outs in the third, giving the Phillies a 1-0 lead.

He ripped another 95 mph heater, on an 0-2 pitch, deep into the right-field bleachers with one out in the sixth to make it 2-0.

"The majority of the time with two strikes, I'll choke up on the bat a little bit to try to stay as short as possible," Utley said. "It doesn't always work out like that, but that's the goal."

Utley, who finished 2-for-4, walked in the first inning to set a record by reaching base in 26 straight playoff games. Baltimore's Boog Powell set the record of 25 from 1966 through 1971.

"I didn't know that happened,"

Utley said. "You try to get on base for the next guy. The more guys on base we have, the better opportunity we have to score some runs."

Utley became the second left-handed batter to hit two homers off a left-handed pitcher in the World Series, joining Babe Ruth, who did it for the Yankees against St. Louis in 1928.

No surprise, the staid Utley wasn't too impressed with his accomplishment.

"I guess that's pretty good company," Utley said. "It doesn't really matter that much."

Sabathia had not allowed a homer in Yankee Stadium to a left-handed hitter this year before Utley connected.

Utley came in 0-for-7 with five strikeouts against the big lefty, including the playoffs. The Phillies beat Sabathia in Game 2 of the NL division series last year when he pitched for Milwaukee.

Known mostly for his hitting, the hardworking Utley has developed into an above-average fielder since breaking in with the Phillies in 2003. But he made two throwing errors while trying to turn double plays that led to important runs in the first two games of the NL championship

series against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

When the Phillies returned to Philadelphia with the series tied at one game apiece, Utley's errant tosses were the talk of the town. Some compared him to Steve Sax and Chuck Knoblauch. When Utley made an accurate throw on his first chance at home, fans gave him a hand. It wasn't mock applause, more a sense of relief. Utley hasn't had any problems since leaving Dodger Stadium.

Now, his bat has put him back in the headlines.

Utley has averaged 30 homers and 100 RBIs while batting .303

over the past four seasons, and has started in the All-Star Game each year.

"He has tremendous balance and rhythm, and his swing produces a lot of bat speed, too," manager Charlie Manuel said. "His weight shift definitely produces a lot of bat speed, and he's got real quick hands to the ball."

Utley is widely considered the best second baseman in the majors. Gritty and hard-nosed, he goes all-out on every play, busts it on routine grounders and easy pop-ups, and spends lots of time in the video room and batting cages.

He played through pain last season, underwent hip surgery last November, returned ahead of schedule and was in the lineup on Opening Day. Utley finished this season with a .282 average, 31 homers, 93 RBIs and 23 stolen bases. He's batting .324 (12-for-37) with three homers in the playoffs.

"When he hits .282, if you want to know the truth, I think that's low for him," Manuel said. "I think he's a .300 hitter. I think he knows he's a .300 hitter. I think I said it today or yesterday, but he's probably going to have a good Series."

Philadelphia Phillies second baseman Chase Utley hits a solo home run in the sixth inning of Game 1 of the World Series against the New York Yankees on Wednesday night. Utley, who made headlines with two throwing errors in the NLCS, became one of the early stories of the World Series with his two homers in the defending champions' 6-1 victory over the Yankees.

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over the past four seasons, and has started in the All-Star Game each year.

"He has tremendous balance and rhythm, and his swing produces a lot of bat speed, too," manager Charlie Manuel said. "His weight shift definitely produces a lot of bat speed, and he's got real quick hands to the ball."

Utley is widely considered the best second baseman in the majors. Gritty and hard-nosed, he goes all-out on every play, busts it on routine grounders and easy pop-ups, and spends lots of time in the video room and batting cages.

World Series

PHILADELPHIA vs. NEW YORK
Wednesday: Philadelphia 6, New York 1, Philadelphia leads series 1-0
Thursday: Philadelphia 5-1 (Martinez 5-1) at New York (Burnett 13-9)
Saturday: New York (Pettitte 14-8) at Philadelphia (Hamels 10-11)
Sunday: New York at Philadelphia
Monday: New York at Philadelphia*
Wednesday, Nov. 4: Philadelphia at New York*
Thursday, Nov. 5: Philadelphia at New York*
*—if necessary

Wednesday

Phillies 6, Yankees 1

	Philadelphia	New York						
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi	
Rollins ss	4	2	1	0	Jeter ss	4	1	3
Victor cf	4	1	1	0	Damon lf	4	0	1
Utley 2b	4	2	2	2	Teixeira 1b	4	0	0
Howard 1b	5	0	2	1	ARodriguez 3b	4	0	0
Werth rf	2	0	1	Posada c	4	0	1	
Ibanez dh	4	0	1	HMatsui dh	3	0	1	
BFRuiz lf	3	0	0	Cano 2b	3	0	0	
P.Feliz 3b	4	0	0	Swisher rf	3	0	0	
C.Ruiz c	4	1	1	McCarr cf	3	0	0	
Totals	34	6	9	6	Totals	32	1	6
Philadelphia				New York				
E. Rollins (1), DP—Philadelphia 1, New York 1, LOB—Philadelphia 1, New York 4.								
2B—Howard 2 (2), C.Ruiz (1), Jeter (1).								
HR—Utley 2 (2), S. Rollins (1).								
IP H ER BB SO								
Philadelphia								
Cl.Lee W.1-0	9	6	1	0	0	0	0	
New York								
Sabathia L.0-1	7	4	2	2	3	6	6	
P.Hughes	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	
D.Marte	2/3	0	0	0	0	0	1	
D.Robertson	1/3	1	0	0	1	0	0	
Bruney	1/3	3	2	2	0	0	0	
Coke	2/3	1	0	0	0	0	0	
P.Hughes pitched to 2 batters in the 8th. T—3:27. A—50,207 (52,325).								

Lee: Yankees score only run on Rollins' throwing error

LEE, FROM BACK PAGE

Lee blanked the Yankees until a run scored on shortstop Jimmy Rollins' throwing error in the ninth. Lee improved to 3-0 with an 0.54 ERA in the playoffs.

He really seemed to enjoy himself, too.

"Game time is the time to go out there and have fun and let your skills take over. It's kind of weird. Boils down to confidence and trusting your teammates," he said.

If Lee felt any anxiety in his Series debut, facing the team that led the majors in victories, homers and runs, it didn't show. And if the Phillies were supposed to be intimidated by the pictures of Babe Ruth and all the Yankees greats on the giant videoboard, it didn't happen.

Pitching in short sleeves on a blustery evening, Lee worked a wad of gum while he worked his spell over the Yanks.

Lee did a lot of the job himself.

When Johnny Damon hit a little popup to the mound, Lee merely stuck out his glove hand to the side and caught the ball as if it were an apple falling from a tree.

"You know, it was pretty cool,"

10 or more strikeouts, no walks in Series game

Cliff Lee, Philadelphia, Oct. 28, 2009, Game 1, 10, K, 0 BB, beat N.Y. Yankees 6-1.

Don Newcombe, Brooklyn, Oct. 5, 1949, Game 1, 11 K, 0 BB, lost to N.Y. Yankees 1-0.

Deacon Phillippe, Pittsburgh, Oct. 1, 1903, Game 1, 10 K, 0 BB, beat Boston Americans 7-3.

The Associated Press; compiled by STATS LLC

Lee said. "It was 15 feet in the air. Pretty simple catch. It came right to me."

That play left the Phillies laughing. Later, he made a nifty, behind-the-back stop on Robinson Cano's one-hopper. He threw the ball to first and shrugged. Easy.

That play stumped Ryan Howard.

"I was like ... wow. Am I missing something? It was so nonchalant, so casual," the Phillies first baseman said.

Said Lee: "I try not to go over the edge and be cocky."

Howard reprised his NL championship series MVP performance, doubling twice and driving in the final run. Barely looking like the 2-to-1 underdogs they are, the Phillies were in such

control that many fans left before the final out.

Lee beat his good friend and former Cy Young teammate Sabathia in the first game at this ballpark back in April, and got this chance after the Phillies traded four minor leaguers to Cleveland in July to get him.

Rodriguez went hitless and struck out three times in his Series debut.

"I did keep it simple today. He kept it even more simple," Rodriguez said. "He threw the ball well. When a guy comes out like that, you tip your cap and move on. He made some pretty good pitches."

Playing in their 40th World Series, and first in six years, the Yankees went down quickly.

Utley's solo home runs in the third and sixth innings gave Lee all the support he needed. Raul Ibanez hit a two-run single in the eighth and Shane Victorino added an RBI single in the ninth.

The Phillies' victory may have been a bit overdue. In their only other October meeting, in 1950, the Whiz Kids from Philadelphia scored just five runs and were swept by the Yankees.

Even though he's an All-Star, Utley was an unlikely candidate to rock Sabathia, the MVP of the ALCS. Utley was 0-for-7 with five strikeouts against the big lefty going into the game.

Utley won a nine-pitch duel with Sabathia in the third, pulling a fastball barely over the right-field wall. The shot was the first by a left-hander allowed by Sabathia at home this year.

Utley struck again in the sixth, sending another heater deep into the right-center field bleachers.

First lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden were among the crowd of 50,207, as were a few specks of fans dressed in Phillies red. Yankees owner George Steinbrenner watched from an upstairs box. He's yet to see his team win in the palace he built.

After two rocky playoff rounds, umpires faced just one tricky play and called it correctly. They huddled after Rollins trapped a popup and threw to first, and ruled it a double play.

Lee also got it right. "He was locked in tonight. Nothing he did surprised me," Phillies closer Brad Lidge said.

WORLD SERIES



ERIC GAY/AP

WORLD SERIES



Johnny Damon's bat is reduced to firewood as he grounds out on a pitch from Philadelphia's Cliff Lee during the third inning of Game 1 of the World Series on Wednesday night. Lee and the Phillies beat Damon's New York Yankees 6-1.

KATHY WILLENS/AP

Yanks' lumber takes slumber against Lee

BY MIKE FITZPATRICK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees better hope they can muster more offense against Pedro Martinez than they did against Cliff Lee.

Baffled through the game by the quick-working lefty, the usually potent Yankees went silent at the plate during a 6-1 loss to the Philadelphia Phillies in the World Series opener Wednesday night.

"We definitely need to get the bats going," Johnny Damon said. "We have to win tomorrow."

Shut down by Lee, New York had to face Martinez in Game 2 on Thursday night. The 38-year-old right-hander, lacking the overpowering fastball he once had, was a thorn in the Yankees' side for years when he pitched for archrival Boston.

Martinez knows how to rise to a big occasion — and he's been quite a boon to the Phillies. Signed in mid-July after sitting out the first half of the season, he

went 5-1 with a 3.63 ERA in nine starts down the stretch. Then, he tossed seven shutout innings of two-hit ball in Game 2 of the NL championship series at Dodger Stadium.

"Pedro knows how to pitch," Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter said. "He's been pitching for a long time and mixes it up. He'll be ready. He likes these atmospheres. He likes these big games, so it's going to be another challenge for us."

This will be Martinez's second World Series start. He allowed three hits over seven scoreless innings for the Red Sox in 2004 against St. Louis.

"He's going to pitch well and he's going to be ready — and so are we," Rodriguez said.

The fourth inning Wednesday night was the most striking example of New York's ineptitude against Lee: Mark Teixeira, strike three swinging; Rodriguez, same thing; Jorge Posada, another whiff.

Rodriguez fanned his first two

times up and didn't hit the ball out of the infield. Not exactly what the three-time MVP had in mind for his World Series debut, especially after putting on such a dazzling display of clutch hitting in the AL playoffs.

The slugger finished 0-for-4 with three of New York's 10 Ks, his first three-strikeout game since July 30. That spelled the end of his 11-game playoff hitting streak.

"I don't think we need to overthink about tonight," Rodriguez said. "Tonight was a dominant pitcher on the mound who dominated our lineup and probably would have dominated any lineup in baseball. So I wouldn't worry about it too much."

Lee went the distance and became the first pitcher to strike out Rodriguez three times in a game since Philadelphia lefty Cole Hamels on May 24. Hamels is slated to start Game 3.

Rodriguez waited 16 major league seasons to reach a World Series. Sixteen years, for that?

"You move on — quick," he said. "You have to have a short memory."

Most of his teammates fared no better. New York managed six hits, one for extra bases, and went down meekly in most innings against Lee.

"He broke about 10 of our bats today, two of them mine. He didn't make any mistakes," Damon said.

With the crowd of 50,207 grumbling after every easy out, the Yankees hit one harmless popup after another. Lee kept them off-balance throughout, fooling and freezing them with off-speed pitches and fastballs.

Soft grounders. Called third strikes. Not a single walk.

All with owner George Steinbrenner watching from his luxury box, no doubt disappointed.

"It was everybody tonight," said Posada, retired on an excuse-me, checked-swing roller to Lee in the seventh.

"We can't pinpoint on one guy. We really didn't hit today. He

pitched a hell of a ballgame."

What happened to all those big Yankees bats, the relentless offensive machine that led the majors this season with 915 runs and 51 comeback victories? Where was the fearsome club that hit 14 homers in nine AL playoff games?

Jeter was the only hitter who looked comfortable against Lee, going 3-for-4 with a double. New York's lone run came on a throwing error by shortstop Jimmy Rollins in the ninth.

The new Yankee Stadium was a homer haven all season. But in their first World Series game at the \$1.5 billion ballpark, the Yankees looked overmatched at the plate as Lee outpitched fellow ace CC Sabathia.

"The ball was definitely getting on us and it was going in different directions. He's learned how to pitch over the last couple years," Damon said. "We're hoping he's not going to be this good the next time, but we know better. Our guy is going to have to shut them down."

World Series notebook

Ibanez gets notable hit in first World Series appearance

BY JAY COHEN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Raul Ibanez was hoping to make it to his first World Series when he agreed to a free-agent deal with the defending champion Philadelphia Phillies in the offseason.

Now that he's here, he's determined to make the most of the opportunity.

Ibanez bounced a two-run single into right field to help Philadelphia beat the New York Yankees 6-1 in Game 1 of the World Series on Wednesday night. The hit off David Robertson made it 4-0 and came after the designated hitter went hitless with two strikeouts in his first three at-bats against CC Sabathia.

"Two different pitchers," Ibanez said. "I didn't change my approach, just tried to put the ball into play."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who has been playing the matchups throughout the playoffs, curiously stayed with the right-handed

Robertson when the lefty-batting Ibanez came to the plate.

"Robby just almost got out of it, and they hit a ground ball in the hole," Girardi said.

Ibanez got off to a fast start after agreeing to a \$31.5 million, three-year contract with Philadelphia in the offseason, making his first career All-Star team. He slowed in the second half when he was bothered by a sore groin but finished with a career-high 34 homers.

"Everybody in here is a grinder," Ibanez said. "They grind things out. They play hard. They hustle. They do things the right way."

Star power: There were plenty of stars off the field, too.

Actors Alec Baldwin and Matthew McConaughey, NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon, former New York Rangers captain Mark Messier, ex-Homeland Security head Tom Ridge and movie directors Spike Lee and Steven Spielberg attended the first Series game at the new Yankee Stadium.

The actress girlfriends of Alex Rodriguez and Derek Jeter were in their usual spots. Kate Hudson was sitting up front and Minka Kelly was in Jeter's suite.

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani was in a front row seat next to the Yankees dugout along the first-base line. He expected to see many famous faces in the Bronx for one simple reason.

"New York's the capital of the world," Giuliani told The Associated Press while standing on the field before the game.

The Boss is back: George Steinbrenner watched Game 1 of the World Series from his suite above home plate, returning to the new Yankee Stadium for the first time since opening day.

Steinbrenner arrived about 45 minutes before New York's 6-1 loss to the Phillies and was driven in a dark minivan with tinted windows to the elevators that lead the suites at the \$1.5 billion palace.

The frail owner, 79, who has made few public appearances since his health deteriorated, was

helped out of his car and into a wheelchair in the stadium tunnel. General manager Brian Cashman then accompanied him on the elevator trip to his box.

Steinbrenner has kept a low profile since turning over the day-to-day operation of the team to his son, Hal Steinbrenner, last November.

He sat in the last row of his box during the first inning and took time to visit with Hall of Fame catcher Yogi Berra in the middle of the game.

The Yankees have said throughout the playoffs that they hope to win a seventh World Series title for Steinbrenner, who bought the team in 1973.

Lots of good numbers: The Phillies won Game 1 of the World Series on the road for the second consecutive year and have won four straight Series games overall. They beat Tampa Bay 3-2 in the opener last year and went on to win the title in five games.

"We treat every game the same, whether it's the first game or

the last game," second baseman Chase Utley said. "We prepare and we play hard and we play to win, and when that game is over, we'll focus on the next game. It is nice to get off on a good start, but for us, it starts tomorrow."

Philadelphia also has won the past seven World Series games in which it scored first.

Pricey tick: Want to go to a World Series game? Try the Big Apple.

The average ticket price for the first two games at Yankee Stadium was \$600 on Wednesday afternoon, compared with \$1,400 for Games 3-5 in Philadelphia. The cheapest tickets were going for about \$310 in New York and \$475 in Philadelphia.

FanSnap.com, an Internet search engine that finds tickets on resale sites, reported there were more than 6,000 tickets available for Game 1 and 4,000-plus for Game 2 on Thursday night, with some sellers wanting more than \$2,600 for a nice seat to watch Pedro Martinez's highly anticipated start for the Phillies.